

Lib. Ser
0

Z
673
056
1910

THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Ontario Library Association

TENTH ANNUAL MEETING

AT THE

PHYSICS BUILDING, UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO,
TORONTO,

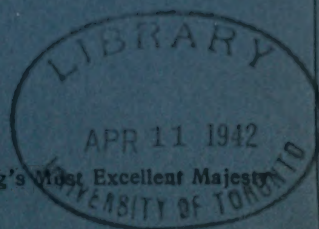
March 28th and 29th, 1910


PRINTED BY ORDER OF
THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO



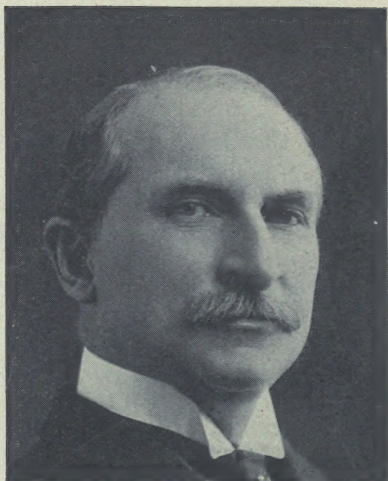
TORONTO:

Printed and Published by L. K. CAMERON, Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty
1910.





Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2007 with funding from
Microsoft Corporation



HIS HONOR JUDGE HARDY
President Ontario Library Association, 1909-1910.

THE PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
Ontario Library Association
TENTH ANNUAL MEETING
AT THE
PHYSICS BUILDING, UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO,
TORONTO,
March 28th and 29th, 1910

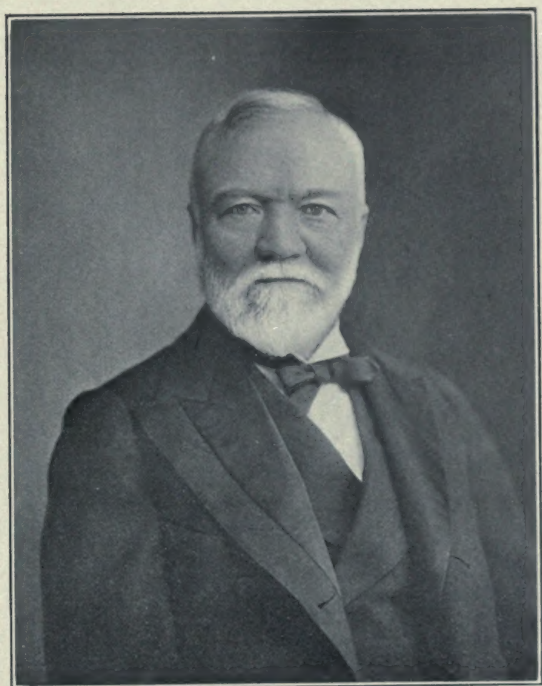
PRINTED BY ORDER OF
THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO



TORONTO:
Printed and Published by L. K. CAMERON, Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty
1910.

Printed by
WILLIAM BRIGGS,
29-37 Richmond Street West,
TORONTO

								PAGE
Programme, 1910	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Proceedings	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Delegates Present	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	87



ANDREW CARNEGIE, Esq.

Ontario Library Association.

PROGRAMME.

THE TENTH ANNUAL MEETING, EASTER MONDAY AND TUESDAY, MARCH 28TH AND 29TH, 1910, AT THE PHYSICS BUILDING, UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO, NORTH LECTURE ROOM.

OFFICERS.

President—His Honor Judge Hardy, The Public Library, Brantford.
First Vice-President—A. W. Cameron, B.A., Woodstock.
Second Vice-President—L. J. Burpee, The Public Library, Ottawa.
Secretary—E. A. Hardy, B.A., 8 University Crescent, Toronto.
Treasurer—A. B. Macallum, Ph.D., F.R.S., The Canadian Institute, Toronto.

COUNCILLORS.

Geo. H. Locke, M.A., The Public Library, Toronto.
W. F. Moore, The Public Library, Dundas.
Miss Janet Carnochan, The Public Library, Niagara.
David Williams, The Public Library, Collingwood.
C. R. Charteris, M.D., The Public Library, Chatham.
H. J. Clarke, B.A., The Public Library, Belleville.
Rev. W. A. Bradley, B.A., Ex-President, The Public Library, Berlin.

MONDAY MARCH 28TH, 1910.

Morning Session, 10.30 o'clock..

Business—

Minutes.

Appointment of Committees.

Annual Reports—Secretary, E. A. Hardy, Toronto; Treasurer, A. B. Macallum, Toronto.

Reports of Committees—

Quarterly List of Best Books. E. A. Hardy, Toronto.

Public Documents. L. J. Burpee, Ottawa.

Library Institutes. A. W. Cameron, Woodstock.

Check List of Canadian Periodicals. H. H. Langton, Toronto.

Business—

(Meeting of Executive Committee at 12 o'clock noon, at Parliament Buildings.)

Afternoon Session, 2 to 5 o'clock.

President's Annual Address—

"Library Training and Some Other Matters." His Honor Judge Hardy.

DISCUSSION—(15 minutes)

Address—

"Our Library Situation." Mr. W. R. Nursey, Inspector of Public Libraries, Toronto.

DISCUSSION—(15 minutes)

Address—

"The Small Library's Problems." A. Denholme, Blenheim.

One hour of the afternoon session will be devoted to discussion of this subject. Resolutions adopted at the various Library Institutes will be presented and it is hoped that a thorough consideration may be given to this very important subject.

Business—

(Meeting of Nominating Committee at 5 o'clock.)

Evening Session, 8 to 10 o'clock.

Report of Special Committee on—

"Technical Education in Public Libraries." D. M. Grant, B.A., Sarnia, Chairman.

Address—

"The Public Library and Technical Education." Mr. Edwin F. Stevens, Brooklyn, N.Y., Librarian Pratt Free Library.

DISCUSSION—

Report of Nominating Committee and Election of Officers.

TUESDAY, MARCH 29TH, 1910.

(Meeting of Executive Committee at 9 a.m.)

Morning Session 9.30 to 12-o'clock.

Address—

"Methods of Reaching the People." Miss B. Mabel Dunham, B.A., Berlin.

DISCUSSION—(30 minutes)

Address—

“The Trustee’s Duty to the Library.” Dr. Otto Klotz, Ottawa.

DISCUSSION—(30 minutes)

Question Drawer—

Questions invited on all kinds of library topics.

Business—

Notes. Bring a note-book and pencil, take home a good Report for your Library Board.

Insert your report in your local papers.

Be ready to take part in the discussions.

Think out your questions for the Question Drawer.

AIMS.

Its object shall be to promote the welfare of libraries—by stimulating public interest in founding and improving them;

—by securing any needed legislation;

—by furthering such co-operation as shall improve results or reduce expenses;

—by exchanging views and making recommendations in convention or otherwise; and

—by advancing the common interest of librarians, trustees and directors, and others engaged in library and allied educational work.

MEMBERSHIP.

1. Any person engaged in library work, as trustee, director, librarian, or in any other capacity, may become a member by paying the annual fee, and any other after election by the Executive Committee.

2. Libraries may join the Association in the same way as individuals, and shall be entitled to two representatives at the meetings of the Association.

3. The Annual Fee shall be one dollar for individuals, and two dollars for libraries.

4. Honorary members may be elected by the Executive Committee at any meeting of the Committee.

5. Any person may become a life-member, entitled during life to all rights and privileges of membership without payment of annual dues, by payment of \$10.00.

ONTARIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

The tenth annual meeting of this Association was held in Toronto, Monday and Tuesday, March 28th and 29th, 1910. The morning session was held in the Mining Building, with a large and representative attendance. The meeting opened at 10.45 o'clock. In the absence of the President, A. W. Cameron, B.A., First Vice-President, took the chair. The minutes of the last meeting as printed were approved.

The Nominating Committee was appointed as follows: Messrs. Denholme, Blenheim; Gurd, Sarnia; Bradley, Berlin; Clarke, Belleville; Mrs. Jacobi, Oshawa.

The Secretary read his report, which, on motion of Rev. Mr. Bradley, seconded by Mr. Gavin, was received and adopted.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ONTARIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION, 1909-1910.

The words "Tenth Annual Meeting" take my mind back to June, 1900, when I had the pleasure of meeting the late Mr. R. J. Blackwell, then Librarian of London Public Library; Mr. E. A. Geiger, Secretary of Brockville Public Library, and other Canadian library workers. We had gathered at the meeting of the American Library Association in Montreal. After six years' hard work by myself as Secretary of the Lindsay Public Library, assisted only by help from Mr. James Bain, Toronto; Mr. Tytler, Guelph, and a few others through correspondence, I was in an open-minded mood for all that I could learn of library development, not only for Lindsay but for Ontario. The others were similarly minded.

The natural consequence was a meeting in the office of Mr. Gould, Librarian, McGill University, to discuss the formation of a Canadian Library Association. Those present were: Mr. James Bain, Toronto; Mr. H. J. T. Lee, Toronto; Mr. C. H. Gould, Montreal; Mr. McLachlan, Montreal; Mr. R. J. Blackwell, London; Mr. E. A. Geiger, Brockville; Miss Brock, Montreal; Miss Fairbairn, Montreal; Mr. E. A. Hardy, Lindsay. The unanimous opinion was that an organization should be formed and a committee, consisting of Messrs. Bain (Chairman), Hardy (Secretary), Gould, Blackwell and Lancefield, was appointed to proceed with the organization. The committee met in the Toronto Public Library, Oct. 19th, 1900, and drafted a constitution, selected provisional officers and planned for the first annual meeting for Easter Monday and Tuesday, 1901. The organization thus launched has gone on steadily, increasing in usefulness and extent during all the following years.

The purposes of the proposed Association were set forth in a paper by the Secretary, on "An Outline Programme of the Work of the O. L. A." This was published in full in *Public Libraries*, July, 1901, and treated the subject under the following heads:

I. Assistance to Libraries:

1. In the selection of books by quarterly bulletins and special bibliographies, etc.

2. In the introduction of modern library methods, *e.g.*, charging systems, binding, book shelving, etc.
3. In classification and cataloguing, by scientific classifications and card catalogues.
4. In the training of librarians, by a library school, study courses, etc.
5. In the use and collection of periodicals.
6. In co-operation, *e.g.*, inter-loans and selections of sets to prevent duplication.
7. In the matter of public documents.

II. Assistance to General Public:

1. By stimulating general interest in public libraries.
2. By publishing special bibliographies, *e.g.*, on Technical Education.
3. By publishing a Canadian bibliography.
4. In regard to local history.

III. Assistance to Schools.

IV. Assistance to Sunday School Libraries.

At the first meeting thirty delegates registered, representing twenty-five libraries, while in 1909 sixty-four delegates registered, representing forty libraries, and during the past year the Association, through the Public Library Institutes, has touched almost two-thirds of the libraries really alive in Ontario. Workers have come to know each other all over the province instead of working in isolation, indifference has given place to interest and self-complacency to openmindedness, new sources of income have been tapped, buildings wisely planned and legislation shaped through the work of the Association. The old systems (or lack of system) of classification have given place to modern methods, and so with charging systems and other library methods, and the outlook for the future with a live, well-organized association, a system of institutes covering the province and the sympathetic co-operation of the Inspector and Department of Education, is very bright. It ought to be the ambition of every member of the Ontario Library Association to bring the library system of the province up to the same standard of efficiency as the public and secondary school system and, I take it, nothing less will satisfy us. In concluding this historical sketch let me add the names of the presidents, with their years of office:

James Bain, D.C.L., Public Library, Toronto, 1900-1901.

H. H. Langton, B.A., University of Toronto, 1902-1903.

W. Tytler, B.A., Public Library, Guelph, 1904.

W. J. Robertson, B.A., LL.B., Public Library, St. Catharines, 1905.

Norman Gurd, B.C.L., Public Library, Sarnia, 1906-1907.

Rev. W. A. Bradley, B. A., Public Library, Berlin, 1908.

His Hon. Judge Hardy, Public Library, Brantford, 1909.

The past year, 1909, has been without doubt the best year in the library history of this province, particularly in regard to the widespread activity of those interested in library matters. The Executive Committee held two meetings, one immediately following the close of last meeting of the O. L. A., and the other at Brantford, Nov. 10th last, in connection with the Library Institute of that district. A good deal of attention was given at these meetings to discussion of the work in hand and to planning the programme of this meeting.

The reports of the sub-committees will show that they have all been at work

during the year, some of them very much so. There are five sub-committees dealing with the following phases of the work:

Quarterly Bulletin of Best Books.

Distribution of Public Documents.

Library Institutes.

Check List of Canadian Periodicals.

Technical Education in Public Libraries.

The eleven Library Institutes held throughout the province during the past year will necessarily produce many valuable results. In addition to the general activity of the libraries represented and increase of their desire to be in touch with modern library movements, it is certain that they will be active in memorializing their municipal and county councils for increased revenues, and it is to be hoped that they will enlist the active interest of the local members of Parliament. If two or three members of the Legislature would really interest themselves in Public Libraries it would mean a great deal.

The missionary work of the members of the O. L. A. at these Institutes is worthy of highest commendation as they sacrificed their time and convenience very freely.

The report of the Committee on Technical Education, which will be presented at this meeting, will unquestionably be considered as a valuable library document. It should be very widely distributed among working men and employers of labor.

During the past year Carnegie grants were made to the following libraries:

Arthur	\$ 7,500	Milton	\$ 5,000
Dresden	8,000	Mount Forest	10,000
Grand Valley	7,500	Niagara Falls	15,000
Gravenhurst	7,000	Orillia	12,500
Hanover	10,000	Owen Sound	17,500
Kemptville	3,000	Seaforth	6,000

From the statement of Mr. James Bertram, Mr. Carnegie's Secretary, it may be noted that Mr. Carnegie has contributed to Canada and Newfoundland (up to Nov. 13, 1909) \$2,025,500 for 87 buildings. These 87 buildings are located as follows:

Newfoundland	1	Ontario	70
Cape Breton	1	Manitoba	2
Nova Scotia	4	Saskatchewan	1
New Brunswick	1	Alberta	2
Quebec	2	British Columbia	3

(For detailed list see Inspector Nurse's report.)

A noteworthy event during the year was the opening of the Reference Library in Toronto, which marks an epoch in the library history of this province. It is a very beautiful building and well worth a visit from every member of this Association. The Art Museum of Toronto is at present using rooms there for a series of exhibitions of pictures which are exceedingly valuable in the art education of this province. Dr. Locke is also using his facilities for exhibitions of election posters of the recent campaign in Great Britain and will doubtless follow this up with similar exhibitions. With the addition of the branches contemplated the Toronto Public Library will soon be in possession of a magnificent equipment for its work.

During the year I sent the collection of library slides to Fort William and Port Arthur, Simcoe and Orillia. It may be well to again call the attention of Boards about to erect new buildings to the value of these slides in suggesting ideas and in preventing costly mistakes, *e.g.*, the cutting up of the floor space of a small library by partitions.

It was my pleasure again to visit the McGill Summer Library School last summer and to note the excellent work being done there. The training of the librarian becomes more and more a pressing question and ought to be very seriously considered by the Government at an early date. We were very glad to note in this connection Mr. Nursey's strong endorsement of this position in his report.

To the planning of the programme of this meeting very careful attention has been paid. The Executive Committee felt that it would be wise to concentrate pretty largely on the two topics—The Small Library, and Technical Education in the Public Library—and the committee trusts that the discussions will be free and to the point.

As I write this report I am looking forward to having present with us Mr. Edward F. Stevens, Brooklyn, N.Y., Librarian of Pratt Free Library, and an expert in this matter of Technical Education through the Public Library, and Mr. N. D. C. Hodges, Cincinnati, President of the American Library Association, and it is quite possible that we might be favored with a visit from some of our other American friends.

I am sure we are all pleased to know of the success attending the first volume of the Canadian Heroes series, published under the auspices of the O. L. A. Mr. Nursey's story of Isaac Brock has entered its second edition and has been very favorably received, and the manuscript is now in hand for the second volume of the series, The Life of Tecumseh, by Mr. Norman Gurd, B.C.L., Sarnia, and successive volumes will probably follow in short intervals.

During the past year the library work of this province suffered a great loss in the death of the late Inspector, Mr. T. W. H. Leavitt. His genial manner, his grasp of the library situation and his high ideals for the libraries of this province made him an exceedingly valuable public servant. Though hampered by ill-health he made his short tenure of office count for a very great deal in the improvement of our library situation. We mourn his departure and will always hold him and his work in high esteem. To his successor in office, Mr. W. R. Nursey, the Executive Committee has already extended a most hearty welcome at its meeting in Brantford last November. Mr. Nursey comes to his work with a wide training in public affairs, an unusually varied experience covering practically the whole of the United States and Canada, a deep love for and extensive knowledge of books, fine literary taste and an acquaintance with library affairs gained through his association with Mr. Leavitt in the work of the department. Moreover, Mr. Nursey has a literary skill and a distinction as an author which adds materially to his qualifications. Although Mr. Nursey has been in office only some seven months, he has really accomplished a great deal. His services in connection with Library Institutes, with Technical Education in Public Libraries, and in the general administration of his department have been extensive and valuable, and his first report recently issued, shows how thoroughly he is giving himself to the work in hand. The Ontario Library Association has reason to congratulate itself upon his appointment.

The sympathetic co-operation of the Minister of Education and the Deputy Minister should be noted here, for they with the Inspector have assisted the Executive of the O. L. A. very freely and generously.

As might be expected from the foregoing report, the work of the Secretary during the past year has been unusually heavy. The correspondence might be classified as follows:

General	175 letters.
Institutes	265 letters
Technical Education	110 letters
<hr/>	
Total	550 letters

In addition to this there has been the sending out of the programmes and circular letters to all the libraries in the province and to hundreds of individuals, besides the preparation and sending out of the Public Library Institute programmes and circular letters and of the questionnaire in connection therewith. This correspondence has naturally required considerable stenographic assistance. The drain on the Secretary's time in connection with Library Institutes and other matters has also been very considerable, but there is the gratification of seeing work accomplished.

E. A. HARDY.

SECRETARY HARDY read the report of the Committee on the Quarterly List of Best Books and moved its adoption, seconded by Dr. Charteris. Carried.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON QUARTERLY BULLETIN OF BEST BOOKS FOR 1910, O. L. A. MEETING.

The Committee appointed last year consisted of Messrs. L. J. Burpee, H. H. Langton, Dr. Charteris, G. H. Locke, E. A. Hardy.

The Secretary had a conference with the late Inspector of Public Libraries and went over with him the criticisms that were made at the 1909 meeting of the O.L.A. concerning the Bulletin as it has been appearing for some time back. The Inspector agreed with most of the points made and requested the Secretary to undertake the editing of the Bulletin. The other members of the Committee concurred in this and the Secretary undertook the work. This arrangement was approved by the Executive Committee of the O. L. A. at the Brantford meeting in November.

After the appointment of Mr. Nursey as Inspector, Mr. Nursey was consulted in the matter and he and the Deputy Minister concurred in the previous arrangement of Mr. Leavitt.

The first number, which was delayed through a variety of causes, contained some 250 titles of recent books and a brief bibliography of Canadian poetry. The second number will appear in April and will contain, in addition to lists of new books, a brief Bibliography of Canadian Fiction. The Inspector and the Deputy Minister agree with the view of the editor that the Bulletin can be made still more useful by giving brief, pointed paragraphs on library methods, etc., and the editor is at present collecting similar publications, *e.g.*, New York Libraries.

Any suggestions that can be used in making the Bulletin more useful to its constituency will be welcomed.

E. A. HARDY,

Secretary of Committee.

SECRETARY HARDY read the report of the Committee on Public Documents, in the absence of Mr. L. J. Burpee on account of illness in his family, and moved its adoption, seconded by Mr. Alexander. Carried.

REPORT OF PUBLIC DOCUMENTS COMMITTEE.

The Public Documents Committee begs to submit the following report:

On behalf of the Committee, Mr. Burpee had an interview with the King's Printer at Ottawa early in March, and submitted for his consideration the following plan for a systematic distribution of Dominion public documents: The Public Libraries of the country to be divided into three classes—Depository Libraries, Intermediate Libraries and Small Libraries. The first class to include the largest or most representative library in each section of the country; these libraries to receive all the publications of the Government, and to be regarded in each case as the central reference library for the other libraries of the district. The second class to embrace libraries in the smaller towns, and to receive a limited list of public documents. The third class to include the smaller libraries, and these to receive only publications of general interest or of special value to the locality they serve. Mr. Parmelee expressed great interest in the plan proposed, and fully agreed that it would not only be of benefit to the public, but would be more economical than the present haphazard system. The wastefulness of that system may be judged from the list of Canadian libraries now receiving Parliamentary documents, which Mr. Parmelee has been good enough to provide for the information of your Committee. While we are assured of the sympathy and support of the King's Printer, he has no power to act in the matter until it has been brought to the attention of the Printing Committee of Parliament, and approved by them. It is too late in the session to do anything at present, but your Committee recommend that they be continued for the following year, and empowered to make representations to the Printing Committee at the next session of Parliament, with a view to securing the adoption of the plan of distribution of public documents outlined above. It would be important that we should approach the Committee with a clearly defined scheme naming the libraries proposed to be included in the Depository and Intermediate Classes. It might be assumed that all other libraries would be included in the third class. Your Committee is of opinion that in urging the adoption of this plan, the Printing Committee should be asked to make provision for bound copies of all public documents for public libraries. It is further desirable that arrangements should be made for the distribution to libraries through the King's Printer of the numerous and often very important publications issued in special editions by one or the other of the various departments of the public service, such for instance as Wheeler's "Selkirk Range," (Interior Department); Walbran's "British Columbia Coast Names," (Marine Department); "Re-the Neptune," (Marine Department); "Speeches of Earl Grey," (Interior Department); Walbran's "British Columbia Coast Names," (Marine Department); "Report on the Georgian Bay Ship Canal," (Public Works Department); McKenna's "Hudson Bay Route," (Interior Department). As a matter of courtesy to our American and other foreign colleagues, and having in view the generous policy of the United States Government in the distribution of their documents to foreign libraries, your Committee might at the same time be empowered to suggest the free distribution of the more important Dominion documents to the larger foreign libraries, the distribution to be made on individual request of such libraries.

(Signed)

L. J. BURPEE,
E. A. HARDY.

The report of the Committee on Library Institutes having been distributed in printed form, Mr. Cameron summarized the points and moved the adoption of the report, seconded by Rev. Mr. Bradley. Carried.

SECRETARY HARDY called the attention to the table on second page, showing that 175 Libraries were not represented at the Institutes. He called attention to the paragraphs at the end of the lists of libraries represented and not represented. He added that it was very important for the small libraries to come in touch with the modern movement. He drew attention to the suggestions at the close of the report.

DR. CHARTERIS suggested that the districts be rearranged so as to put the small libraries more convenient to the centres at which the Institutes are held, and if necessary for this purpose to diminish the representation of each district.

REV. MR. BRADLEY approved of the suggestion, and thought the lists ought to be only suggestive so that the libraries send delegates to the most convenient Institute.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC LIBRARY INSTITUTES 1909-1910.

HISTORICAL SKETCH.

The Committee on Library Institutes in presenting the record of the past year's achievement is gratified to know that its work has covered the Province with Institutes as the details to follow will show. The value of these Institutes will be indicated in the remarks and suggestions of the representatives of the O.L.A. who attended the meetings and of the delegates of many of the libraries represented and in the resolutions adopted. It is hoped that the presence at this O.L.A. meeting of a good many delegates from the smaller libraries may be another evidence of the good work accomplished.

Before going into the details of the past year's Institutes it may be interesting to give a brief historical sketch of the growth of this form of library activity in Ontario.

The idea of Public Library Institutes, similar in character to the teachers' institutes of each inspectorate in the Province, was brought before the Ontario Library Association in a paper on the subject by the Secretary at the 1903 meeting. On motion the matter was referred to the incoming Executive Committee, who appointed a sub-committee to deal with it. Nothing was done for some years, however, though the sub-committee was appointed each year. In 1907 the committee, consisting of Messrs. Norman Gurd, President, O.L.A.; E. A. Hardy, Secretary, O.L.A.; and A. W. Cameron, took hold of the matter in earnest and through the courtesy of the Brantford Public Library Board and aided by a small grant from the Department of Education, the committee was able to arrange for the first Institute at Brantford, Thursday, July 11th, 1907.

This first Institute was so successful that the committee were encouraged to map out the Province into ten districts and to plan for some additional Institutes the following year. The same committee was continued for 1908-09 and by dint of hard work three Institutes were held during the year at Brantford, August 11th, Chatham, August 12th, and Niagara Falls, November 5th, 1908. The Brantford meeting was again a decided success, both in attendance and interest. The other two were very much hampered by local conditions and yet were sufficiently encouraging to induce the committee to recommend their continuance another year.

In 1909 the committee was enlarged to consist of Messrs. A. W. Cameron, Norman Gurd, E. A. Hardy, David Williams, L. J. Burpee. The matter of having an Institute in each district was made possible by the changes in the Public Libraries Act of 1909, which authorized the Minister of Education to provide for the holding of these Institutes and also provided for the payment of the expenses of one representative from each library. The clauses dealing with the matter are here quoted:

26. (1) Subject to the regulations the Minister may

- (a) Provide for the establishment of library institutes and for the holding of the meetings thereof;
- (c) The Minister may pay the travelling and other necessary expenses of one delegate from each board in attending a meeting of the institute.

- (2) If a board, after having received notice of the date for holding a meeting of the Library Institute does not send a delegate to such meeting the Minister may withhold a sum not exceeding \$5 from the next Government grant payable to the Board.

The committee were thus able to arrange for 11 institutes covering the libraries of the entire Province except Algoma, Nipissing, Parry Sound, Rainy River and Thunder Bay. The following table shows the district, date of meeting, place, number of libraries represented and number unrepresented.

District.	Date.	Place.	Libraries represented.	Libraries not represented.	Total.
Chatham	July 7, 1909.....	Chatham	16	23	39
Niagara	Nov. 9, 1909.....	St. Catharines	9	16	25
Brantford	Nov. 10, 1909.....	Brantford	22	15	37
Eastern	Nov. 17, 1909.....	Ottawa	23	39	62
London	Jan. 18, 1910.....	London	25	5	30
Stratford	Jan. 19, 1910.....	Stratford	30	14	44
Georgian	Jan. 20 and 21, 1910....	Collingwood	10	11	21
Guelph	Feb. 8, 1910.....	Berlin.....	25	9	34
Belleville.....	Feb. 24, 1910.....	Belleville	16	11	27
Lindsay	Feb. 25, 1910.....	Lindsay	20	18	38
Orangeville	Mar. 8, 1910	Orangeville.....	20	14	34
			216	175	391
		Duplicates.....	3	3
			213	175	388

Herewith are given the lists of the libraries represented and those not represented. It will be noticed that many of these in the group of "not represented" are found in the Inspectors' reports for the past few years as dormant or defunct, but it is a matter of special interest that through the Institutes several of these dying libraries have been aroused to a new life.

PUBLIC LIBRARY INSTITUTES.

CHATHAM DISTRICT—Chatham, July 7th, 1909.

<i>Libraries Represented.</i>		<i>Libraries Not Represented.</i>	
Essex—		Comber,	
Amherstberg,		Essex,	
Walkerville,		Harrow,	
Windsor	3	Kingsville,	
		Leamington,	
		Peelee Island	6
Kent—			
Blenheim,		Bothwell,	
Chatham,		Dresden,	
Tilbury,		Duart,	
Ridgetown,		Highgate	4
Romney,			
Thamesville,			
Wallaceburg	7		
Elgin West—		Dutton,	
St. Thomas,		Romney	2
Shedden	2		
Lambton—			
Brigden,		Arkona,	
Sarnia,		Alvinston,	
Watford,		Bunyan,	
Marthaville	4	Copleston,	
		Forest,	
		Inwood,	
		Oil Springs,	
		Petrolia,	
		Point Edward,	
		Thedford,	
		Wyoming	11
	—		—
	16		23

NIAGARA DISTRICT—St. Catharines, Nov. 9th, 1909.

<i>Libraries Represented.</i>		<i>Libraries Not Represented.</i>	
Lincoln—		Abingdon,	
Beamsville,		Grantham,	
Merritton,		Grimsby,	
Smithville,		Niagara	4
St. Catharines	4		
Welland—		Bridgeburg,	
Fonthill,		Fort Erie,	
Niagara Falls,		Ridgeway	3
Port Colborne,			
Thorold,			
Welland	5		
Haldimand—		Caledonia,	
		Canfield,	
		Cayuga,	
		Cheapside,	
		Dunnville,	
		Hagersville,	
		Jarvis,	
		Nanticooke,	
		Victoria (Caledonia)	9
		(See Niagara District.)	
	—		—
	9		16

BRANTFORD DISTRICT—Brantford, Nov. 10th, 1909.

<i>Libraries Represented.</i>		<i>Libraries Not Represented.</i>	
Brant—		Burford	
Brantford,			1
Glen Morris,			
New Durham,			
Paris,			
Scotland,			
St. George	6		
Wentworth—		Millgrove	
Dundas,		Saltfleet	2
Hamilton,			
Linden,			
Waterdown	4		

BRANTFORD DISTRICT—Continued.

<i>Libraries Represented.</i>		<i>Libraries Not Represented.</i>	
Oxford—			
Embros,		Beachville,	
Harrington,		Brownsville,	
Ingersoll,		Drumbo,	
Plattsville,		Kintore,	
Norwich,		Otterville,	
Tavistock,		Princeton,	
Tillsonburg,		Thamesford	7
Woodstock	8		
Norfolk—			
Simcoe	1	Bloomsburg,	
		Delhi,	
		Port Dover,	
		Port Rowan,	
		Waterford	5
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	19		15

Other Libraries.

Haldimand—	
Canfield,	
Hagersville,	
Victoria (Caledonia)	3

EASTERN DISTRICT—Ottawa, Nov. 17th, 1909.

<i>Libraries Represented.</i>		<i>Libraries Not Represented.</i>	
Prescott—			
Vankleek Hill	1	Hawkesbury	1
Glengarry—			
Lancaster,		Maxville,	
Dunvegan	2	Williamstown	2
Stormont—			
Cornwall,		Avonmore,	
Newington	2	Berwick	2
Dundas—			
Morrisburg	1	Chesterville,	
		Iroquois,	
		Matilda,	
		South Mountain,	
		Winchester	5

EASTERN DISTRICT—Continued.

*Libraries Represented.**Libraries Not Represented.*

Russell 0

Russell 1

Carleton—

North Gower,
Ottawa 2Carp,
Corkery,
Kars,
Kinburn,
Manotick,
Metcalfe,
Richmond 7

Grenville—

Cardinal,
Easton's Corners,
Oxford Mills,
Prescott 4Jasper,
Kemptville,
Merrickville,
Spencerville 4

Leeds—

Gananoque,
Lyn 2Addison,
Brockville,
Mallorytown,
Westport 4

Frontenac North 0

Mississippi 1

Lanark—

Almonte,
Carleton Place,
Elphin,
Pakenham,
Perth,
Smith's Falls 6Allan's Mills,
Dalhousie,
Lanark,
Middleville,
Poland,
Watson's Corners 6

Renfrew—

Admaston,
Arnprior,
Pembroke 3Burnstown,
Cobden,
Douglas,
Foresters' Falls,
Renfrew,
White Lake 6—
23—
39*Other Libraries.*Montreal,
Westmount.

LONDON DISTRICT—London, Jan. 18th, 1910.

Libraries Represented.

Middlesex—

Ailsa Craig,	
Belmont,	
Coldstream,	
Dorchester,	
Komoka,	
London,	
Melbourne,	
Mount Brydges,	
Newbury,	
Parkhill,	
Strathroy,	
Wardsville	12

Elgin East—

Aylmer,	
Springfield	2

 14
Libraries Not Represented.

Granton,	
Lucan	2

Bayham,	
Port Stanley,	
Sparta	3

 5
Other Libraries.

Lambton—

Arkona,	
Brigden,	
Copleston,	
Forest,	
Inwood,	
Oil Springs,	
Sarnia,	
Thedford,	
Watford,	
Mandamin	10
(See also Chatham District.)	

Oxford—

Kintore	1
---------------	---

 25

(See Brantford District.)

STRATFORD DISTRICT—Stratford, Jan. 19th, 1910.

Libraries Represented.

Huron—

Brucefield,	
Brussels,	
Clinton,	
Ethel,	
Exeter,	
Goderich,	
Gorrie,	
Seaforth,	
St. Helens,	
Walton,	
Wingham,	
Wroxeter	12

Bruce—

Cargill,	
Chesley,	
Elmwood,	
Mildmay,	
Paisley,	
Pinkerton,	
Port Elgin,	
Ripley,	
Underwood,	
Walkerton	10

Perth—

Atwood,	
Listowel,	
Milverton,	
Mitchell,	
Monkton,	
Shakespeare,	
St. Mary's,	
Stratford	8

—
30*Libraries Not Represented.*

Auburn,	
Blythe,	
Dungannon,	
Hensall	4

Bervie,	
Glamis,	
Kincardine,	
Lucknow,	
Riversdale,	
Southampton,	
Teeswater,	
Tara,	
Westford,	
Wiarton	10

—
14

GEORGIAN DISTRICT—Collingwood, Jan. 20th and 21st, 1910.

*Libraries Represented.**Libraries Not Represented.*

Simcoe—

Angus,
 Barrie,
 Bradford,
 Collingwood,
 Lefroy,
 Midland,
 Penetanguishene 7

Alliston,
 Coldwater,
 Cookstown,
 Creemore,
 Elmvale,
 Hillsdale,
 Orillia,
 Stayner,
 Sunnidale,
 Tottenham 10

Grey, N. E.—

Meaford,
 Clarksburg,
 Thornbury 3

 10

Singhampton 1

 11

GUELPH DISTRICT—Berlin, Feb. 8th, 1910.

*Libraries Represented.**Libraries Not Represented.*

Waterloo—

Ayr,
 Berlin,
 Elmira,
 Galt,
 Hawkesville,
 Hespeler,
 New Dundee,
 Waterloo,
 Wellesley 9

Linwood,
 New Hamburg,
 Preston 3

Wellington—

Alma,
 Arthur,
 Belwood,
 Clifford,
 Drayton,
 Elora,
 Ennotville,
 Erin,
 Fergus,
 Glen Allan,
 Guelph,
 Harriston,
 Morriston,
 Palmerston 14

Mount Forest,
 Rockwood,
 Speedside 3

GUELPH DISTRICT—Continued.

<i>Libraries Represented.</i>		<i>Libraries Not Represented.</i>	
Halton—			
Burlington,		Acton,	
Oakville	2	Georgetown,	
		Milton	3
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	25		9

BELLEVILLE DISTRICT—Belleville, Feb. 24th, 1910.

<i>Libraries Represented.</i>		<i>Libraries Not Represented.</i>	
Prince Edward—			
Picton	1		
Lennox—			
Napanee	1	Bath,	
		Odessa	2
Addington—			
Newbury,		Camden East,	
Napanee Mills	2	Tamworth	2
Hastings—			
Belleville,		Deseronto,	
Frankford,		Marlbank,	
Madoc,		Trenton	3
Stirling,			
Tweed	5		
Northumberland—			
Brighton,		Coldsprings	1
Campbellford,			
Cobourg,			
Colborne,			
Gore's Landing,			
Grafton,			
Warkworth	7		
Frontenac—			
	0	Garden Island,	
		Kingston,	
		Sydenham	3
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	16		11

LINDSAY DISTRICT—Lindsay, Feb. 25th, 1910.

<i>Libraries Represented.</i>		<i>Libraries Not Represented.</i>	
Peterborough—			
Norwood,		Hastings,	
Peterboro	2	Lakefield	2
Durham—			
Millbrook,		Bowmanville,	
Port Hope	2	Orono	2
Ontario—			
Beaverton,		Brooklyn,	
Claremont,		Cannington,	
Oshawa,		Pickering,	
Port Perry,		Sunderland,	
Uxbridge	5	Whitby,	
		Zephyr	6
Victoria—			
Bobcaygeon,		Kinmount,	
Cambray,		Kirkfield,	
Fenelon Falls,		Norland,	
Little Britain,		Woodville	4
Lindsay,			
Manilla,			
Oakwood,			
Omeme	8		
Haliburton—			
	0	Haliburton,	
Muskoka—		Minden	2
Bracebridge,			
Baysville,		Gravenhurst,	
Huntsville	3	Port Carling	2
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	20		18

ORANGEVILLE DISTRICT—Orangeville, March 8th, 1910.

<i>Libraries Represented.</i>		<i>Libraries Not Represented.</i>	
Peel—			
Alton,		Lorne Park,	
Belfountain,		Port Credit,	
Bolton,		Streetsville	3
Brampton,			
Caledon,			
Claude,			
Inglewood,			
Mono Road,			
Mono Mills	9		
Dufferin—			
Grand Valley,		Glen Cross,	

ORANGEVILLE DISTRICT—Continued.

*Libraries Represented.**Libraries Not Represented.*

Mono Centre, Orangeville, Shelburne	4	Honeywood, Relessey	3
Grey—(Except N. E.)— Durham, Kemble, Hanover, Lake Charles, Markdale, Owen Sound, Priceville	7	Ayton, Badjeros, Bognor, Chatsworth, Dromore, Dundalk, Holstein, Maxwell & Feversham	8
	<hr/> 20		<hr/> 14

NEW LIBRARIES INTERESTED.

Of these 213 libraries reported as having representatives at these Institutes, probably not more than 60 have ever sent any delegates to the Ontario Library Association meetings. That means that at least 150 libraries in Ontario have come into personal contact for the first time with the organized modern library movement and the results must be a very considerable awakening of these libraries into new activity.

As to the libraries that sent no representatives this year several things may be said. Some of them are among our good libraries and presumably local reasons interfered with their having no delegates. It may be that others appointed delegates who at the last moment found themselves unable to attend or to get substitutes. But probably a larger number failed through indifference or neglect. It is to be hoped that they will arouse to a sense of their responsibilities during the coming year.

TOPICS AND SPEAKERS.

The following table gives a summary of the topics and speakers at the Institutes.

Chatham—

- Norman Gurd, Sarnia—"The Library and its Relation to Local Societies."
A. Voaden, M.D., St. Thomas—"Some Difficulties in Classification and Cataloguing."
Fred Stone, Chatham—"Some Recent Books for the General Department."
E. A. Hardy, Toronto—"Qualifications of Librarians, Courses of Study, Certificates, etc."
A. Denholme, Blenheim—"Basis of Library Grants."
A. B. Carscallen, Wallaceburg—"The Modern Public Library and its Policy."
His Hon. Judge Hardy, Brantford—"The Function of the Public Library."

Niagara—

- Miss Witmer, Niagara Falls—"The Relation of the Public Library to the Public Schools."
His Hon. Judge Hardy, Brantford—"The Modern Public Library."
E. A. Hardy, Toronto—"The History and the Function of the Public Library."
W. R. Nursey, Toronto—"The Public Library's Mission."
Dr. King, St. Catharines—"The Disinfection of Public Library Books."

Brantford—

- Dr. E. E. Kitchen, St. George—"Municipal Control of Rural Libraries."
 W. O. Carson, London—"The Selection and Purchase of Books for Public Libraries."
 E. A. Hardy, Toronto—"Some Library Problems."
 L. J. Burpee, Ottawa—"Some Practical Suggestions to the Librarian."
 T. G. Marquis, Brantford—"Canadiana."
 W. R. Nursey, Toronto—"Some Observations on our Library Work."
 His Hon. Judge Hardy, Brantford—"How Far the Public Library can Aid in Technical Education."

Eastern—

- C. H. Gould, Montreal—"The Modern Library."
 Miss Mary S. Saxe, Westmount—"Popularizing the Library."
 Miss Annie A. Masson, Ottawa—"Work with the Children."
 Miss Ruby M. Bothwell, Ottawa—"Cataloguing for Small Libraries."
 E. A. Hardy, Toronto—"Book Selection and Book Buying."
 W. R. Nursey, Toronto—"The Work of the Public Library."

London—

- Norman Gurd, Sarnia—"The Small Library, its Establishment and Finances."
 Miss Gray, London—"Reference Work in the Small Library."
 A. Voaden, M.D., St. Thomas—"Cataloguing the Small Library."
 Miss B. Mabel Dunham, Berlin—"Assistance to Readers."
 W. R. Nursey, Toronto—"The Work of the Public Library."
 M. P. McDonagh, London—"Fiction and the Public Library."
 His Hon. Judge Hardy, Brantford—"Conference on Best Methods of Interesting the Public in the Public Library."

Stratford—

- His Hon. Judge Hardy, Brantford—"The Possibilities of the Library."
 W. R. Nursey, Toronto—"The Work of the Public Library."
 W. Brydone, Clinton—"Government Aid to Libraries."
 Rev. W. H. Johnston, Chesterfield—"The Small Library's Problems."
 W. O. Carson, London—"The Best Method of Selecting and Purchasing Books."

Georgian—

- W. R. Nursey, Toronto—"Libraries and Library Institutes."
 E. A. Hardy, Toronto—"History and Mission of the Public Library."
 W. O. Carson, London—"The Place of the Public Library in our Educational System."
 Local Representatives—Topics relating to district.

Guelph—

- W. R. Nursey, Toronto—"The Work of the Public Library."
 T. G. Marquis, Brantford—"Canadiana."
 Dr. E. E. Kitchin, St. George—"The Small Library's Problems."
 W. O. Carson, London—"Selection and Purchase of Books for Public Libraries."

Belleville—

- W. R. Nursey, Toronto—"The Work of the Public Library."
 Rev. W. A. Bradley, Berlin—"What the Public Library can do for the Working Man."
 G. H. Locke, Toronto—"The Mission of the Public Library."
 Local Representatives—"The Small Library's Problems."

Lindsay—

- Rev. W. A. Bradley, Berlin—"What the Public Library can do for the Working Man."
 W. R. Nursey, Toronto—"The Public Library in Ontario."
 J. Hampden Burnham, Peterboro—"Public Libraries and Canadian Literature."
 Local Representatives—"The Small Library's Problems."
 G. H. Locke, Toronto—"The Mission of the Public Library."

Orangeville—

- W. R. Nursey, Toronto—"The Work of the Public Library."
 David Williams, Collingwood—"How to Make Libraries Useful and Interesting to those they are supposed to serve."
 Rev. W. A. Bradley, Berlin—"What the Public Library can do for the Working Man."
 Alex. Steele, Orangeville—"The Library Problem (with special reference to the Small Library)."
 Dr. John Graham, Mono Road—"Encouraging Intensity of Reading rather than Extensity."

A study of the above programs shows that the interests of the small library were kept to the front. This was especially the case where the program was largely in the hands of this committee. The small library's problems, especially in finance, administration and the selection and purchase of books, were given very careful discussion and a most encouraging feature was the general readiness to participate in the discussion. An occasional paper or address on technical or library matters and some general addresses on the mission and possibilities of the public library added variety to the program and broadened the outlook of the delegates present.

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES FOR 1910-1911.

The following list gives the names of the local officers and committees for the coming year.

Chatham—

- President—A. B. Carscallen, Wallaceburg.
 Secretary-Treasurer—J. W. Hamilton, Sarnia.
 Executive Committee—Dr. C. R. Charteris, Chatham; Dr. Mitchell, Wallaceburg; Dr. A. Voaden, St. Thomas; F. P. Gavin, B.A., Windsor.

Niagara—

No officers were elected, but Mr. W. J. Robertson, B.A., LL.B., Sheriff Dawson and Mr. John Coy were the local committee and will no doubt act till an organization is effected.

Brantford—

President—Dr. E. E. Kitchen, St. George.

Secretary-Treasurer—E. D. Henwood, Brantford.

Executive Committee—Wm. Imrie, Tillsonburg; J. M. Steele, Dundas; J. Garfield Gibson, Ingersoll; R. A. Duncan, Embro; Miss M. E. Mylne, Paris; Miss Della Griffin, Waterdown.

Eastern—

President—Dr. Otto Klotz, Ottawa.

Vice-President—Cameron Macpherson, Prescott.

Secretary-Treasurer—L. J. Burpee, Ottawa.

Executive Committee—Hellery Bridge, Arnprior; Miss Hattie Nicolls, Perth; Miss L. Clark, Cornwall; Rev. H. Cameron, Morrisburg; Miss Mary S. Saxe, Westmount.

London—

President—Rev. C. R. Durrant, Melbourne.

Vice-President—Edgar M. Zavitz, Coldstream.

Secretary—W. O. Carson, London.

Executive Committee—R. G. Moore, Aylmer; Dr. C. L. Huffman, Forest; C. J. Stewart, Inwood; J. E. Aston, Mt. Brydges; J. V. Macdonald, Strathroy.

Stratford—

President—J. Davis Barnett, Stratford.

Secretary—J. H. Smith, Stratford.

Georgian—

President—A. H. Cuttle, Collingwood.

Vice-President—Rev. F. W. Gilmour, Penetanguishene.

Secretary—A. F. Hunter, B.A., Barrie.

Executive Committee—Miss H. Smith, Barrie; W. B. Sloan, Lefroy (Church-hill P.O.); Dr. F. D. Kent, Thornbury; David Williams, Collingwood; Rev. F. Smith, Bradford; Rev. R. J. Sturgeon, Angus; Rev. Canon Greene, Orillia.

Guelph—

President—W. Tytler, B.A., Guelph.

Vice-President—J. E. Kerr, Galt.

Secretary-Treasurer—Miss B. Mabel Dunham, B.A., Berlin.

Executive Committee—Mr. Gmelin, Ayr; Rev. T. W. McNamara, Drayton; Mrs. Irvine, Oakville.

Belleville—

President—Col. S. S. Lazier, Belleville.

Vice-President—His Hon. Judge Morrison, Picton.

Secretary-Treasurer—C. Brooke Marsland, Warkworth.

Executive Committee—Mrs. W. S. Herrington, Napanee; Rev. James Binnie, Tweed; Mrs. A. M. Wilson, Colborne; Rev. A. J. Reid, Campbellford; Dr. H. A. Yeomans, Belleville; Mrs. J. McC. Potts, Stirling; Mrs. H. V. Malone, Frankford.

Lindsay—

President—Dr. A. E. Vrooman, Lindsay.

Vice-President—J. Hampden Burnham, Peterboro.

Secretary—Mrs. E. J. Jacobi, Oshawa.

Executive Committee—James English, Peterboro; L. K. Murton, Oshawa; H. Logan, Beaverton; Mrs. M. E. Calder, Fenelon Falls; A. H. C. Long, Port Hope; Albert Davidson, Little Britain; M. J. Dickie, Bracebridge.

Orangeville—

President—Alex. Steele, B.A., Orangeville.

1st Vice-President—H. H. Burgess, Owen Sound.

2nd Vice-President—Dr. C. Y. Moore, Brampton.

Secretary-Treasurer—Dr. M. W. Berwick, Grand Valley.

Executive Committee—J. Taylor, Hanover; R. C. Davidson, Lake Charles; Mr. Mortimer, Honeywood; Rev. R. J. S. Adamson, Shelbourne; W. J. Young, Durham; Miss N. Stork, Bolton.

In the above lists of officers the number of clergymen, doctors and ladies is worthy of note. It seems quite natural that these classes, along with the teachers, should be especially interested in the public library movement. Another notable fact is that of the 81 persons just elected only some 21 have attended a meeting of the Ontario Library Association. The importance of enlisting all this new force in our work is obvious.

RESOLUTIONS.

At several of the Institutes resolutions were passed dealing with matters of lively interest. These resolutions are as follows:

Stratford—1. "That we ask the Ontario Government to prepare and publish for free distribution, a model Canadian Public Library book list, say of 5,000 vols., fully classified, numbered and annotated, as a help to the smaller libraries in their selection of shelf literature."

2. "To so amend the Department rules and conditions that the small struggling libraries who most need assistance may get more money help or grant than they can ordinarily qualify for under present rules."

Georgian.—1. "That this Library Institute views with regret the high annual rate of mortality amongst the smaller libraries (viz., above ten per cent. of the total number of libraries in the Province), although at the same time from \$7,000 to \$8,000 of the sum voted by the Legislature annually remains unexpended; it is therefore our opinion that a change in the system of making Legislative grants is necessary, and that every library, however small, should receive a minimum annual grant of \$25 to aid in its maintenance."

2. "That having realized the impossibility of an adequate inspection of public libraries by only one official, we are of the opinion that assistants to the Inspector should be appointed by the Department of Education with the hope of rendering the smaller libraries more efficient help."

3. "That in the opinion of this Library Institute the County Councils should be asked to contribute to the support of public libraries, and that Rev. F. W. Gilmour (Penetanguishene), Rev. R. J. Sturgeon (Angus P.O.), and A. F. Hunter (Barrie), be a committee for Simcoe County to lay the matter before the County

Council (the delegates present from Grey County undertaking to act in concert with the others from the remaining parts of the county in laying the matter before the Grey County Council."

4. "That in view of the fact that much money is wasted in purchasing useless books, this Georgian Library Institute urge the Government to take immediate steps in providing the following: (1) Some place or places where the small libraries may obtain information in regard to the selection of books, and (2) the publishing of a model library annotated catalogue of 5,000 volumes every five years."

Guelph.—"That the Ontario Government be asked to secure the services of Lawrence J. Burpee, F.R.G.S., of the Ottawa Carnegie Library, or some other such eminent authority on Canadian Literature, to prepare for the use of Librarians a bibliography of Canadian works, giving names, a description and approximate prices."

RESULTS.

Correspondence with the representatives of the O.L.A. who attended the Library Institutes, and with some of the delegates present, shows the following as among the practical results.

1. A large correspondence from the delegates, one of our speakers receiving almost 40 letters. These inquiries relate to increasing the library's revenues, the securing of a Carnegie grant, the selection and purchase of books and general library administration. This correspondence is a sure indication of the greatly awakened interest of many libraries.

The following is a typical letter:

Dear Sir,—After having attended the District Annual Library Meeting in Berlin two weeks ago I am trying to get our Library here in town on good footing again. For the last three years we have not been able to send in a report as it took all the money we could raise to pay Librarian and rent and consequently there have been no books purchased. Since the meeting in Berlin I have canvassed considerable and expect to soon have the fifty names, and our township council here have promised us ten dollars, so we expect to have a report ready for another year. Will you please let me know if there will be any chance of the Association helping us this year or can you tell me what steps to take in order to get a little help, and can you also tell me what steps to take that I may obtain the Travelling Library, as I think by getting it and advertising a little it will be easier to get subscriptions. Please give me any information you can that would be of help to me in the advance of our Library and in securing the Travelling Library."

2. In several counties the libraries have combined in sending a deputation to their County Council to ask for a grant. The example of Kent and Victoria counties in this matter was judged a good precedent. At least four of the Institutes have resulted in some such movement and one County Council at least has responded favorably. Where the other deputations were not successful they are preparing to try again shortly. Here is a good source of revenue which should be utilized by all our libraries.

3. The Board of Trade has been persuaded to join forces with the friends of the Library and to call public meetings to discuss the library situation.

4. The Inspector of Public Libraries has been asked to visit a community and give his assistance in some matter of importance.

5. Co-operative bookbuying. In Lambton County several of the libraries have decided to place the orders for some of their books (especially novels) through the Sarnia Public Library. This will cut the price of these books in half, and is one of the best possible ways of aiding the small library.

6. Here is a group of inquiries following one Institute (the Eastern District).

A Librarian: Asked for information on mending materials that had been exhibited at the Institute.

A Librarian: Asked for names of various selected catalogues and lists; how to get library bulletins, public documents, etc., that had been exhibited at the Institute. Also got help on cataloguing.

A Librarian: Asked for names of a few library bulletins that had been shown at the Institute—New York Libraries, and Wisconsin Library Bulletin. Also asked for helpful literature on how to reduce her fiction circulation and increase her non-fiction figures.

A Member of a Library Board: Did not attend the Institute, but heard of it through the President who did. Asked for books of practical use in cataloguing, and also asked questions about the work itself.

A Member of a Library Board: Asked for book of charades and recitations.

A Member of a Library Board: Asked for list of books for the Pakenham Library.

A Librarian: Asked for methods of disinfecting books that had circulated in families having contagious diseases.

7. The following extract from a newspaper report of the opening of the new Ridgeway Library in 1909 (cost about \$1,200) shows what one Institute (Niagara District) did in 1908.

(From Mr. A. H. Gillan's address at the opening of the new library building in Ridgeway):

"It happened that about the time the board became aware that new quarters would have to be found for our books, Dr. Snyder and Mr. Collard were sent as delegates from Ridgeway to attend a Library convention in Niagara Falls. They came back to us filled with the enthusiasm that brings results. This contagion spread from one to another until we all felt its effects, and I believe the position we happily occupy to-night is traceable in a large measure to the visit of these gentlemen as delegates to the convention.

"Institutions of this kind are prone to become sleepy at times and we were dormant but not quite dead. Now, however, we are very much alive and as a measure of precaution let us try to remain so."

SUGGESTIONS.

Some suggestions for the Institutes during the coming year have grown naturally out of this year's experiments.

1. The program should centre around the small library's interests. These Institutes are designed largely for the assistance of the smaller libraries and great care should be taken in the preparation of the program. The local executives should go into the matter at as early a date as possible and select their topics and speakers and notify the Secretary of the O.L.A. of their selections in plenty of time to complete arrangements.

2. The date of the Institutes should be carefully considered by the local executives. The majority have been held in January and February, but it is a question worth consideration as to whether the summer would not be more suitable for several of the Institutes.

3. In the selection of officers it would seem highly advisable that the smaller libraries should have a large share of the important offices. The placing of responsibility upon their shoulders would naturally lead to a deeper interest in library matters and the missionary spirit in library matters has similar results for the worker as in any other sphere, that is, a growth at home.

In view of the work of the past year presented above and the suggestions for the coming year, the committee have pleasure in presenting this report. The outlook for a general lifting up of our libraries seems very bright. With the admirable library legislation now in force, with the very considerable legislative grants to our libraries, with a sympathetic and active administration on the part of Mr. Nursey, the Inspector of Public Libraries, who was present at ten of the eleven Institutes, and imparted much practical information, those interested in the public library may confidently look to a day in the near future when the library system of Ontario may take rank with her school system. In realizing that condition the library institute will play no inconsiderable part.

A. W. CAMERON.

NORMAN GURD.

DAVID WILLIAMS.

L. J. BURPEE.

E. A. HARDY.

REV. MR. MOYER pointed out that the libraries in Wentworth County received notices from St. Catharines as well as from Brantford.

SECRETARY HARDY explained that the Institutes were missionary in their methods, and took in libraries all around, regardless of districts. Lambton County libraries join in with Chatham instead of London.

MR. HAMILTON suggested a standing Committee to deal with sections.

SECRETARY HARDY explained that each Institute has an Executive, except the Niagara Institute. It would be well for this Association to get in touch with the local executives. Until this year we have had no local organization.

THE CHAIRMAN: This is the third draft of territory that has been made. It is a difficult matter to work out.

MR. DENHOLME said we must look to the Institutes to put the dead libraries into shape. A number of important small towns and villages are not drawing any Government grant or doing any work. The Institutes provide machinery to bring those libraries into line.

MR. GRANT said a hard and fast line would prevent the libraries from attending the Institute, that they must be allowed to go to places within easy reach.

MR. DENHOLME thought the districts should be planned on the lines of railway instead of on those of the compass.

THE CHAIRMAN said that was the basis on which the list was first made, but there were local conditions which no central board could foresee.

SECRETARY HARDY explained that a new district had been made to meet that kind of difficulty. Orangeville district took in part of Grey County and Dufferin and Halton. Those in the north-eastern corner of Grey County go to the Georgian district on account of bad railway facilities. Similarly, Lambton might be subdivided, those along the Pere Marquette going to Chatham, and the rest to London. Those things can be re-adjusted by the local executives.

A DELEGATE (Guelph) moved that this meeting endorse the resolution passed at Guelph Institute.

MR. GAVIN moved that the report be received and that the recommendations sent by the Institutes to the Government be referred to the Executive to report at next session.

MR. HAMILTON thought the question was a large one, and suggested a special committee.

MR. MUNROE questioned whether this Association had any supervising power over those Institutes.

THE CHAIRMAN: It might aid the Institutes if this Association were to endorse the resolutions.

MR. GAVIN: But suppose we object to them?

THE CHAIRMAN: Our objection might be presented to the Government, and no doubt would have considerable weight.

MR. HAMILTON seconded Mr. Gavin's motion, which was carried.

MR. GURD moved that copies of this report on the Library Institutes be forwarded to the different Institute centres, and distributed amongst those in attendance there. The experience of members of the Institute would be valuable to us, and if this report could be discussed at the various Institutes valuable ideas might be suggested.

REV. MR. BRADLEY seconded the motion. Carried.

Some discussion ensued from a remark by Rev. Mr. Moyer as to 64 libraries having gone out of existence during the past year, Mr. Grant suggesting that probably they had died several years ago but were only buried last year.

MR. WILLIAMS thought the report should go out by itself to each library, even though it be intended to incorporate it in the proceedings.

SECRETARY HARDY read the report of Mr. Langton from the Committee on Check List of Canadian Periodicals and moved its adoption. Seconded by Dr. Charteris. Carried.

MR. GURD moved that a Committee be appointed by the Executive on Check List of Canadian Periodicals.

MR. KERR seconded. Carried.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CHECK LIST OF CANADIAN PERIODICALS.

The Committee on a Check List of Canadian Periodicals beg to report as follows:—

Your Committee having taken into consideration both the requirements of libraries and the historical and bibliographical value that might attach to a complete record of periodicals, other than newspapers, which have been published in any part of Canada from the earliest period, it has seemed advisable to them that any list now prepared should be made as complete as possible, as a basis for future bibliographical work in this direction.

1. Your Committee therefore beg to recommend that the present Committee be continued or a new Committee appointed with instructions to prepare a catalogue of Canadian periodicals, including publications of societies, with historical notes, embracing all such publications that have been issued in Canada down to the present day, and that libraries and private collectors be publicly invited to co-operate with such a Committee.

2. Your Committee further recommend that a standing Committee of the Association be constituted to report annually the names and particulars of new periodical publications published anywhere in Canada, with a view to having a printed supplement to the Catalogue prepared as often as may seem necessary.

H. H. LANGTON,
Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN introduced Dr. Hodges, President of the American Library Association.

DR. HODGES was received with applause, and said the initials "O.L.A." were familiar to him, as he came from Ohio. (Laughter.) One of the delegates had asked him if he was a librarian, and he had replied, "I am a librarian, I come from the other side of the line." The delegate's remark was, "Oh, you are talking, are you?" (Laughter.) The speaker was rather taken aback with that. (Laughter.) He was very much pleased with the earnestness and success manifested in the Ontario Association; commended the printing and distribution of the reports before they are acted upon by the Committees, adding that there was nothing like a good strong Chairman to put things through. (Laughter.) He told of the Chairman of the Building Committee on his Board who had been in office for thirty years, and who occasionally brings in recommendations for the Board to approve, and when they have been dealt with he reports that the matters referred to have been actually put through and accomplished. (Laughter.) So long as the O.L.A. has such vigorous Committees, the Association is sure of success. (Applause.)

THE CHAIRMAN introduced Mr. Chivers, of Bath, England, a good friend of Public Libraries, because he understands the best methods of dealing with books.

MR. CHIVERS said that since speaking to the Association last year on books he had made a little discovery that was new to book-sellers and publishers, namely, that the physical deterioration of paper during the past ten years was so great that we are getting about 75 per cent. less value now than ten years ago. He had read a paper on this subject which was printed in Bulletin "A" of the A.L.A. If librarians would take this matter up it would have an effect on publishers, who do not seem to be fully aware of the kind of paper they are dealing with. The feather-weight papers lose, in the very act of folding, no less than 52 per cent. of their quality, and all bookbinding, by publishers at any rate, is sewed through that fold. Books are used in public libraries ten times as much as in the hands of private purchasers, and it made a great deal of difference in the expense of running a library what kind of paper was used. He offered his services to librarians on this question. (Applause.)

THE CHAIRMAN announced that Mr. Chivers had brought specimens of binding which he would be glad to exhibit to visitors at the King Edward Hotel.

Meeting adjourned at 12 o'clock till 2 p.m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Monday, March 28th, 1910.

The Convention resumed at 2 o'clock p.m.

HIS HONOUR JUDGE HARDY, President, delivered his annual address. He said: The Public Library situation in Ontario is one of growing interest. Many of us can remember when people of some eminence looked on the work of public libraries with considerable scepticism, not to say cynicism. He would do some of those people the justice of saying that they did not have a full appreciation of the public library, and had in mind perhaps some very weak institution where the work was not carried on by up-to-date methods, and therefore their opinion was based upon very little real knowledge of the question. If there was any ground for their feeling, it was that the public libraries in Ontario, speaking generally, were rather weak on the utility and educative side. However, with the advent of Mr. Carnegie into the library field, with his unique and splendid generosity—he desired to give him credit, for he was a millionaire, and they don't get credit for anything (laughter)—the library work received a great impetus. Along with Mr. Carnegie's splendid work, our own Government have been aiding library work in a very practical way, and have been on the lookout to follow up suggestions that have been made from time to time. We are grateful for that assistance. Then this Association has been growing in interest and power and influence yearly. We find now that the question of public libraries in Ontario is a living one. We may be said to have created a public imagination as to what the library should be. At least this desideratum is in process of formation, and this is the first thing for us to obtain in order to have behind us that educated and solid body of public opinion which will back up the work of this Association by reason of its appreciation of the work we are doing. It is not necessary now to justify the public library.

There are now very few people sceptical as to its work. Our problem now is rather to see how far the Institution can be perfected in its methods and what plans can be adopted for making it among the finest institutions of its kind to be found anywhere. The old-fashioned library in which a few scholars and students gathered together and browsed among the book-shelves is very largely passing away, and it is more and more becoming a bureau of information, a laboratory for research, and an investigating machine for the discovery of knowledge—not so much for that sort of lackadaisical kind of entertainment and amusement which formerly characterized it. One feature of this modern age which we must all recognize is that a knowledge of the fact—whatever that fact may be about—is the lord and master of the situation; and the modern library tends, by its reference department and by its methods for investigating, and its educative processes, to give citizens generally the opportunity of establishing the fact about anything.

As an Association we have considerable work to do—missionary work, work of a constructive character; dynamic work, if that term is proper. We are to force a great deal of work that is to be done in the province; and in that sense we have a missionary work to do. We may have to descend to what some people might think forms of advertising. It pays to advertise—pardon the expression—and there are forms of library advertising that are not indulged in in Ontario to anything like the extent that they should be, or that are engaged in elsewhere. Now, with the various demands that would be made upon this Institution, little can be accomplished without the aid of good librarians. It is not necessary to speak to this audience as to the demands of such a position; but the Province of Ontario,

speaking generally, may be said to be practically virgin soil in respect to skilled librarians. We have not got them. It is true there are a few leaders, but the small cities and towns know very little of the trained librarian or of the possibilities of library development, usefulness and expansion through the work of a trained librarian. Therefore we should have in Ontario some method of library training. Mr. Gould has done a good deal of work in that line in Montreal even for candidates from this province; but if the work here is to advance and grow as it should we must sooner or later have here a system of library training of some kind or other. I am anxious to see established in Ontario a library school which would train librarians and give opportunities for library boards to get the help and assistance which to any large extent can be got only from those who are regularly trained.

In the neighboring republic there are some nine or ten first-class library schools embodying a curriculum which runs two, three and in some cases four years. In New York State there are three; in Massachusetts one; in Ohio another; in Wisconsin and Illinois and other leading states a library school is attached to the universities, where a thorough library training is given. In this province we have not such an institution. I do not say that we are prepared just yet to establish such an institution. I don't know that we could go any farther than to establish a good up-to-date summer library school; but there is no reason why that should not be at once established in Ontario. The work could be carried on here by the assistance of the Government and University, or by our friend, Mr. Locke, in connection with the excellent library of the City of Toronto, or perhaps at London by Mr. Carson; but there should be a summer school established in this province in order that we may have the benefits of the library training, which I take it is a first essential of successful library development. I take it that it is thus considered and understood by the American people, who have given this subject great attention and of course are leaders in this development, that the library school is certainly the most potent factor, the strongest influence that we have towards the building up of libraries and for the performance of their work; therefore I urge that something be done with regard to that question. I would suggest that our local libraries pass resolutions that they would not employ assistants that had not a certificate from the school. They would thus save themselves a great deal of trouble and also do their libraries much good, protecting local boards from local "pull" and influence that often work very disastrously in the local library. Candidates should be sent by the libraries for courses in the summer school, which might be continued for two or more seasons, and thus the greatest benefit would be afforded. I wish to say just here that the local libraries have felt very much disappointment from the non-issue of the Quarterly List of Best Books for purchase that it was expected the Department would issue from time to time. When it was published, this list was of great interest and value. I would also suggest the publication of a Quarterly of some kind for those interested in library work. There is much library matter of interest in this province which should be distributed among the Boards and Trustees and Librarians, but we have no medium or organ, and there is great necessity for one. For example, at our library institutes valuable papers of a very practical character are read and discussed, but the value of them is largely lost by lack of publication. This quarterly should be issued free by the Department. It need not cost very much. In sending it out, along with the Book List, the papers read at the Institutes should be printed, and other suggestions that are of value in library work. The Quarterly should be given to each member of every library board and every librarian and assistant in the province.

Another feature of our work occurs to me. A few weeks ago the Brantford Board voted that our librarian should visit some other libraries, and he went to London and spent a couple of days with Mr. Carson, and besides having a little round-table conference with that gentleman, and doing a little field work there, he looked over the London library and brought back a great many suggestions and a list of books of reference that we should have in Brantford. Altogether it was a most profitable visit. I would pass on this suggestion to other libraries. It is money very well spent to allow your librarian not only a little holiday, but a conference with minds deeply interested in the work.

The Library Institutes were formed particularly for looking after the small libraries. We know that there have been many decadent small libraries in Ontario. Perhaps this is owing to the strict enforcement of the regulations passed a few years ago, to which they are not able to conform, and that in older days were passed over. Well, they should be held strictly to account, and if there is anything the matter with them the doctor should be called in and they should be put right and made of service to their community, and not allowed to drag along; therefore I think the Institutes should take cognizance of such libraries within their jurisdiction; not that they must set them entirely on their feet, nor that the officers of the Institutes must visit them and help them pass by-laws and hold mass-meetings, and carry on a lot of work for which they have neither time nor money; but in connection with the Institutes there should be a system of investigation or inspection of some kind to find out what the matter is at least with those particular weak brethren, and after the trouble has been ascertained, call in the Inspector of the Department and get his co-operation so that many of them could be placed on their feet again.

Speaking of the Inspector, he is over-worked and the Department is undermanned. (Applause.) The work done by this Association has, as it were, overflowed and become too much for them, with the result that they are not able to take care of the volume of business offering. The Inspector should have more assistance. One horse cannot do the work of a team, and it should not be expected. The Department might very well consider the question of adding very materially to its staff if they are going to undertake, as I believe it should, the publication of a really worth while list of good books and of a quarterly bulletin, and many other things that are now necessary for them to look after. In this work of developing the public library they need more assistance; and there is no question that the public would amply justify the expenditure in granting them as much as they would require for carrying on the work.

We all realize that in a democracy such as exists with us, the improvement and development of the individual citizen to the highest point of efficiency is a necessity; and the Library is, or should be, doing its fair share of that work. I consider myself fortunate in being permitted to engage, even in so small and slight a degree as I do, in this good work. It is a noble work; it is a patriotic work. As I find it, it is as fascinating as it is important. I consider it a privilege to have given what little service I have; and I know we all realize that as an educative force it is one of those things necessary under free institutions and free Government in order that intelligence may be developed to its highest point, so that we may have a basis for that security to property and that security to the rights that have been won and fought out in the past which it is necessary should be maintained, and can only be maintained by an intelligent people. (Applause.)

MR TYTLER asked why the Quarterly had not been issued.

THE SECRETARY replied that the last one issued was in January, 1910, and the next would be issued in April, and will contain a Bibliography of Canadian

Fiction, and the next one of History, and so on. The Deputy Minister has agreed to the suggestions that the Bulletin should contain papers, or at least paragraphs, as to methods, etc. Of course these things have to grow rather slowly, and the Deputy Minister is unwilling that this thing should grow too fast, but just as it grows the Department will carry out the suggestions made by the President.

INSPECTOR NURSEY said the January Bulletin was sent to the Secretary of every Library Board, and if any copies had not been received he wished complaints filed with him.

Several delegates and also the President spoke of not having received the January Bulletin, and a discussion arose as to whether the copies should be sent to the Librarian or to the Secretary, or both. Finally,

THE PRESIDENT said he thought the Department would have no objection to sending them to two persons, perhaps the Chairman and the Librarian. Two or three copies are needed, anyway, as it is a very valuable publication.

REV. MR. BRADLEY moved that the Department send two copies—one to the Chairman and one to the Librarian of the Board. (Motion seconded.)

MRS. JACOBI moved that the copies be sent to the Librarian and Chairman and Secretary of the Board. This amendment was seconded, but on being put was lost, and the motion was carried that they be sent to the Librarian and the Chairman.

MR. WILLIAMS moved that a Resolution Committee be appointed to deal with the various questions that come up here, said Committee to be composed of others than members of the Executive.

MR. CLARKE seconded the motion, which was carried. (Committee of five to be named by the President.)

MR. LEE believed that the recommendation of this Association would have very great weight with the Department, and moved that we urge more aid for the Inspector.

REV. MR. BRADLEY seconded the motion, which was carried.

On motion of Mr. Williams, the President's address was referred to the Resolution Committee.

The Chairman called upon Mr. W. R. Nursey, Inspector of Public Libraries, who addressed the meeting on

OUR LIBRARY SITUATION.

MR. W. R. NURSEY, Inspector of Public Libraries, referred to the lamented death of his predecessor, Mr. Leavitt, whose paper on "Technical Education in Connection with Libraries," the speaker had the melancholy pleasure of reading at last year's meeting. Mr. Leavitt was a man of exceptional attainments, imbued most thoroughly with the library spirit, a man of progressive ideas, considerable culture, and very broad-minded. He was cut off at the very time when he seemingly was most needed. The speaker was sure the Association would forgive any shortcomings on his part, as he had so recently assumed office, and had no opportunity to prepare a special paper for the occasion. The three topics which occurred to him as suitable for discussion and in the order of their importance were: The condition of the smaller libraries throughout the country; the juvenile department in libraries; and the proposed extension of technical education through the instrumentality of the library. He could deal with only one of these at this time.

Since assuming office he had met with very many librarians and people interested in library work throughout the province. Since last July there had been eleven Institutes held, and these practically covered the whole province. He had been present at ten of these, and on each of those occasions had an opportunity of listening to the remarks made and seeing the distress exhibited on the part of many librarians and others connected with library work in regard to the condition of the smaller libraries. Out of 413 libraries that were on the List of the Department last year, some 365 reported—that is, referring to the libraries that reported in 1909 for 1908. Out of the 131 “free” libraries—and those belong to the class in which at the moment of this discussion we are not so interested in as in the “not free” or “Association” libraries, as they are now called—eight received no legislative grant; six received no municipal grant; and five received neither a grant from the Legislature nor from the municipality. Now, out of the 234 “not free” libraries reporting 63 received no legislative grant; 74 received no municipal grant; and 42 received neither legislative nor municipal grant. Of this class there were 33 libraries that had an income of less than \$200, indeed the most of them had an income in the neighborhood of only \$100 and there were 32 that had an income of less even than \$50. Now, these figures tell their own story. The condition of these struggling libraries I claim is of greater importance than any other question that can possibly come before you, and there exists great necessity for the steps which the Department, through the suggestion of the Inspector, has under consideration for relieving them in their distress. The reason that some libraries receive no legislative grant is easily explained. It rests primarily in most instances in the fact that receiving no municipal grant, and being handicapped with an insignificant income derived from membership fees, their only source of revenue, they had not the funds to purchase books, and the buying of books and magazines was the chief basis of qualification for participation in the legislative grant. Many of these depend for support upon haphazard subscriptions, which for reasons seldom explained frequently fall off. Whether that is due to apathy on the part of the library boards, or to absence of proper endeavor on the part of secretaries or librarians, it is hard to determine. One thing however is certain, that out of the appropriation voted by the Legislature there has been a substantial sum of money yearly unexpended, when the object of the Legislature and the spirit of legislation was that it should have been earned and shared by the libraries throughout the country. This is most regrettable. The problem has been how to overcome that. Judging by the reports received by the Inspector this year—though some reports are still far from encouraging—it is doubtful if there will be any residue unexpended at the close of the present fiscal year. (Hear, hear.) Hence the financial position of many of those libraries will not be quite so bad this year as last. This will be largely due to the more generous provisions of the new Act, which, while slightly reducing the per cent. previously allowed on fiction, allows for an additional grant based on the total yearly receipts of a library and a bonus for keeping the reading room open.

At some of the Institutes sub-committees of the District Executives were appointed to look into the conditions of those small libraries, with a view of suggesting some feasible plan of affording practical relief. I always and strongly urged that action of this nature should be undertaken, but was met on some occasions with the statement that this work was really the duty primarily of the Inspector and the Department of Education. While admitting that, and realizing all the responsibilities attached to the position of Inspector and to the Department, yet I thought and still think that those Committees can do an immense deal of

service by co-operating in the direction named. There are not many such libraries in each district, but the problem represents both work and self-denial. If these conditions were observed, and lists sent through your parent organization or direct to the Department of Education it would make the situation easier of interpretation and would strengthen the hands of the Inspector and help the Department in taking such action in the desired direction that it might deem expedient.

In the interim I have been very busy trying to devise some plan, possible under the Act, which I thought might be acceptable to the Minister of Education and provide a measure of relief. In the Inspector's Report for 1909, prepared by myself, I suggested, out of the limited knowledge which I possessed in that matter, certain methods by which I thought relief might be extended. One was that out of any unexpended balance of the appropriation a flat amount, say \$25, might be granted to those libraries *in extremis*, and which had shown an active desire to help themselves. It has been said that \$25 was next to nothing to many of those libraries; but when the total receipts of a certain library only amounted to \$4—according to the report of one library sent to the Department (laughter)—\$25 would be a bonanza.

THE PRESIDENT: What do they do with all the money? (Laughter.)

MR. NURSEY: Another method might be on the basis of paying by results; with that object in view I intend adding a column in the returns showing population, another showing the cost of maintenance and salaries separately, which, with the circulation, would show the comparative cost and extent of the work accomplished, the true conditions and what would be the equitable and better way of treating them individually. I don't think it would be proper to give all libraries a flat amount simply because they were in distress. If we find that they are in difficulties owing to their own apathy, I certainly think they ought to be taught, in a paternal way, what are their responsibilities; but I think if they were allowed to suffer to a certain extent it might lead, let us hope, to greater efforts in the future. On the other hand, those that had manifested not only the desire, but actual, practical activity, might well get the benefit of the doubt and receive in proportion to the work they had accomplished. Some of these libraries are deserving of every encouragement owing to their most commendable efforts to supplement their income by concerts and other forms of entertainment. It is a well-known fact that there are no two libraries in the country that are existing under precisely similar conditions. Side by side, small rural libraries in adjoining municipalities may be controlled by entirely dissimilar circumstances, and a plan for raising money that might be practicable in one case might be absolutely impossible in another. My suggestion as to the forming of sub-committees of the Executives of the various library Institute districts was made with the idea of trying to get the domestic history of the smaller and decadent libraries, and to find out how they fell into such desperate straits, so that we could better know how to formulate some workable plan for their relief.

In company with your President, Mr. Hardy, and Mr. Grant, whose report is before you, I recently made a trip to certain points in the United States with the object of making enquiries into the condition of technical education as conducted through the medium of the public libraries in that country. I have a report which it was my duty as Inspector to make to the Department. This may be published later. There has been criticism in regard to the amount the Legislature votes annually by way of grant to the libraries of this province. It is claimed that if this appropriation were increased, more money naturally would

be available to those libraries that have needed it. But comparison and contrast should always be brought to bear in discussing questions of this description. I find that in New York State they have to-day less than 400 free libraries in good standing. There is no state grant extended to any library unless it is free—and I sincerely hope the day will not be far distant when there will be nothing in Ontario but free libraries. However, all that is given by the State of New York is \$200 as a maximum grant. According to information given me at Albany I find however that the most, apparently, that was ever paid any one library was \$100.

We in Ontario, with less than one quarter of the population of the State of New York, have 435 libraries on our list, approximately one library for every 5,000 persons, as against one library for every 22,000 persons in the State of New York—it is true that not all of ours are active—but through the Department of Education under the new Act of 1909 a certain class of library can earn a maximum grant of \$260 per annum. We are well aware that the very small library could never hope to earn that sum, but the fact remains, and speaks well for the policy that animates the Legislature and the spirit that controls the Department of Education that such a large amount should be forthcoming in the event of a library being able to earn it; and this year it will be easy for many under similar conditions to earn more than they ever earned before.

That, however, does not overcome the fact that the small library "is up against it." What is it possible to do? The new Act of 1909 was framed with the hope of extending additional help and relief to the smaller libraries, and as a result I believe there will be no residue of the legislative appropriation left this year. But even so, that, you will say, does not meet the difficulty that confronts the little library. It has been suggested that the Legislature during the session just closed might have introduced amendments to this Act which would have lent relief in some other way, but it is never advisable to suggest a change in an Act framed after careful consideration within a year after its becoming law, neither is it wise to expect it can be done. Possibly next year, after due consultation and deliberation, it might be possible to obtain some slight amendment, but unless some well considered changes have been reached and proper representations based on ascertained facts have been laid before the Department no amendment could be expected. I do, however, know this, speaking as representing in a sense the Department of Education, that in the Minister of Education you have a man who is most sympathetic and desirous of extending, to the best of his ability and to the limit of the Act governing the matter, every consideration that he can to every library in the province. That feeling is wholly shared by the Deputy Minister, and for my own part I can truly say I have given a great deal of consideration to the subject.

Since my return from the ten Institutes I have attended I have been deluged with correspondence from librarians and secretaries from many parts of the country asking what is to be done, and making suggestions, few of them practical, or that I believe can be acted upon. It shows, however, that the people at large are more than ever alive to the importance of library expansion, and that a great "revival"—to use the happy phrase of Mr. Locke—is taking place throughout the country. I think we can all share in congratulating each other that this is more or less due to the efforts lately made in carrying the campaign and these library questions into outlying districts. I think the members of the Executive of this Association deserve all kinds of credit for the zeal and activity and work they have displayed in furthering the objects of the Depart-

ment of Education in the direction of improving the condition of the libraries of the country. Through these district library institutes we will gain an immense amount of information, and I trust a great deal of co-operation.

The principle of granting aid as adopted by the Ontario Government is based, as I have said, on the buying of books for circulation, and it has occurred to me that an exchange of books among the smaller libraries in each institute district might be established if they would get in touch with each other through the district secretaries. If a library is hard up and unable to buy new books, it would be better to borrow books from any source than have none. In connection with the small struggling libraries it is well to remember that in addition to any monetary grant the Government can give, the Department has travelling libraries that are sent through the rural districts. Where a small library finds itself languishing owing to the fact that it has no new literature, it can obtain a case of assorted books by application to the Department of Education. The Department will send forty or fifty books in a travelling library case, and this costs nothing except the express or freight charges one way. These are valuable auxiliaries to the work we are doing. We have 8,000 books on the road, moving from point to point, contained in about 200 cases. Applications are being daily received by the Department—more than ever since these Library Institute meetings have been held, and the people throughout Ontario have been given a better opportunity for knowing of the many library accessories provided for them at headquarters. We circulate more books in Ontario in this way than the States of either New Jersey or Montana, and we are in many other respects in advance of our friends on the other side.

Notwithstanding the enormous wealth of the State of New York, and the facilities they have there, we should certainly congratulate ourselves on what has been done in this direction. In the State of New York there is a qualification in regard to the granting of money, whereas here it is granted entirely on the annual Report of each Library that it has kept its reading rooms open for a specified time; has total annual receipts not exceeding \$500; and has purchased so many books and periodicals, but it is not the business of the Provincial Legislature to determine—though I think it might—what the books should be. In New York State no money is paid unless the books purchased by the Libraries meet with the approval of the Board of Commissioners or the Department interested. There is a string, you will see, attached to the payment of United States State aid, and I understood the libraries have to send lists to the regents representing the Department before they can participate in the appropriation at all, and those lists have to be censored by the State Department.

Since the Institute meetings there have also been a great many letters received by the Department asking how to obtain a grant from Mr. Carnegie. Mr. Bradley, who is nothing if not a man of special information in connection with Mr. Carnegie's munificence, has had, as most of you know, a unique experience in that connection in Berlin. (Laughter.) He tells me that since he has spoken at those Institute meetings he also has received numerous letters. The letters coming to the Department asking how to appeal to Mr. Carnegie for money are from libraries that never thought of asking before, in fact were on the verge of closing their doors. Evidently there is a new spirit abroad, which is a subject of profound congratulation. I have been asked lately to visit small towns where they were contemplating reorganization of their library, and in several instances these have arranged to apply to Mr. Carnegie for a grant.

In conclusion, if at any time there is anything you want to know, and you think the Inspector can give the desired information, do not hesitate to write to the Department. I cannot always promise a reply by return post, but I can promise that you do receive an answer in respect to the information sought. My great object and aim is to co-operate with you to the best of my ability and to the extent of my limitations under the Act, for the advancement of library work throughout this Province. The greatest good for the greatest number. Fortunately I have behind me a Minister who is deeply in sympathy with the movement, and a Deputy Minister, who takes an exceptionally active interest in all that makes for library extension in Ontario. (Applause.)

PROFESSOR A. B. MACALLUM read his report as treasurer, which was received and adopted on motion of Rev. Mr. Bradley, seconded by Mr. Tytler.

ONTARIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE, 1909.

<i>Receipts.</i>		
Annual fees	\$82 00	
Legislative grant	200 00	
Balance from 1908	244 14	
		\$526 19
<i>Expenditure.</i>		
E. A. Hardy, clerical help and postage	\$35 00	
E. A. Hardy, telegrams	1 58	
E. A. Hardy, cartage	50	
E. A. Hardy, lantern slides	1 00	
Travelling expenses, W. W. Campbell	25 00	
Thos. Bengough & Co., reporting proceedings	25 00	
William Briggs, printing	37 62	
Conversazione and luncheon	24 42	
E. A. Hardy, honorarium	100 00	
Postage, Treasurer	43	
		250 55
Balance		\$275 64

THE SMALL LIBRARY PROBLEM.

THE PRESIDENT: We are here this afternoon very largely for the purpose of discussing one question, that is, the Small Libraries. It is one of those questions that will not down. I have not been able to down it satisfactorily in many meetings of the Association I have attended for some years. It was hoped that at this meeting we should have such a discussion on the subject, that we might perhaps be able to frame some policy which would help materially in the future. With that end in view we have asked Mr. Denholme, who has been interested in the library they have in Blenheim, to give us a paper.

MR. DENHOLME, Blenheim, read the following paper, which was received with hearty applause:—

PROBLEMS OF THE SMALL LIBRARIES.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—In presuming to lay before you something about the "Problems of the Small Libraries," I would venture to remind you at the outset that the "Small Libraries" means the vast majority of all the libraries in Ontario.

There are nearly 500 public libraries in this Province, but more than a quarter of these are dormant or suspended. One important cause why so many are now suspended I will mention later. Of this number there are about 235 libraries, not free, reporting now, and 130 free libraries. About two-thirds of the free libraries and one-third of the libraries not free maintain free reading rooms.

Now, if I say that the libraries whose finances are so cramped that they cannot earn a Government grant of \$100 are small libraries, I think you will all agree with me. Yet we find that only some 56 free and 17 other public libraries receive aid to the amount of \$100 per year, or about one-fifth of all the libraries reporting. So we must conclude that four-fifths of us are in the small class.

We are all proud of the libraries in the cities and large towns, and as most of those here are representing the larger libraries, I can assure you that we all heartily share in your feelings of pardonable pride in the institutions with which you are connected. At the same time let me point out to you that the full development of your own field makes it necessary that the smaller places must not be neglected or overlooked. Our population is constantly changing—people from the country and the villages are moving to the towns and cities, and on the mental stamina of the newcomers largely depends the future well-being of the cities.

And there is no reason why we should not foster in our rural populations the intelligence and culture which raises mankind above the animal. To remove the inertia and narrowness of the small community no remedy is so potent as contact with the great minds of the past and present, and that close touch with the happenings of the Twentieth Century which can only be obtained through books, newspapers and magazines. And above all, the welfare of our Canadian nation demands that every unit of the population should be given the largest opportunity for mental expansion.

We give largely and carefully to a system of education which is compulsory in demanding both attendance and financial contribution—and we have found it to our advantage in every way. Then it naturally follows that we should foster in the most feasible way the continuance of the education begun in the schools—and that is by way of the public libraries.

Many years ago the foundation of our public library system was laid in the Mechanics' Institutes, which did their work well in their time. In our cities and many of our towns and villages we now have free libraries which are splendidly patronized. For our other towns and rural districts we have the Public Library Associations, and on the problems of how best to maintain these latter I speak to you to-day. The problems involved are not many, but are usually serious for a small community, and include the managers, the librarians and the patrons.

The securing of a good Board, headed by an efficient chairman, is nearly always a hard initial problem. We may talk over it calmly here, but it is often a hard one to solve. We may blame it on the community, but that does little good.

It is true that our present day education, especially for the learned professions, and in our universities, seems to turn out graduates whose leading aim is to acquire dollars with ease. The duty to our fellow beings, our service for the com-

mon good seems to be overlooked. A seat on the library board carries no glory or public recognition, or reward in cash, but does involve an attention to the library which takes up time without reward, and so is a position little to be desired. Half the libraries of which we are speaking are and should always be in the rural villages and centres not large enough to be incorporated, and so the choice for these positions is restricted. Where the teacher, the clergyman, the physician, declare they will not discharge the duties there is disinclination among the other residents who have not enjoyed scholastic advantages. It often devolves upon a faithful few, and occasionally only one, to carry on this work. The remedy here, I believe, lies in constant and faithful instruction from large educational centres downward, that wherever educated men or women find their lot cast, their first duty is to their fellows, and in the line of the advantages which have been given to themselves—an educated man should find his highest duty in helping to educate those around him, and in small centres the best agency to be used is the public library.

A good librarian is a jewel of highest value, though I am afraid too often little prized and often miserably paid. In many of these small libraries the custodian's work is indeed a labor of love, and for such we have but highest praise. Usually the ladies are in charge, and the kindly manner in which enquirers for books are aided, the children made at home, and readers sympathized with, goes to one's heart, and proves that love and sympathy for the whole community are not entirely lost virtues. It could be wished that there were more such, for libraries whose whole income never reaches more than a few hundred dollars per year cannot by any money reward possible for them secure efficient service, as is done in the cities. It is well worth maintaining a library if it were for nothing more but to prove that it is possible in almost every community to find someone who out of the fulness of his or her heart will discharge the duties of such an office and look for the larger reward in the satisfaction of doing well a quiet work for the common good. But such jewels have to be searched for—they do not boast of their abilities or their willingness, and often have to be persuaded to come forward. In finding out a good librarian and getting the work begun lies a very important part of the work of the Board of Directors. On the way in which they discharge this portion of their duty depends very largely indeed the success of the library. Their judgment in choice and importunity in accepting no refusal must be wisely used. And afterwards they must give their active support and advice and encouragement in carrying on the work.

Then as to the patrons. As only about one-fourth of the smaller libraries are free libraries, and only a very small proportion of the other three-fourths can ever hope from their surrounding conditions to be free, let us consider the patrons from the standpoint of those who pay their yearly dollar. Only about twenty per cent. of the population become readers in the free libraries, and naturally ten per cent. will be a good proportion when a fee is charged. But that smaller proportion will include the painstaking, the careful and exacting readers. It will include all those who read for profit, those whose opinions and advice will be looked to with respect by the balance of the community. Every effort to secure their support must be made—even a personal canvass sometimes being necessary, and the effort to enlist the people of the community to contribute their yearly subscription for the maintenance of the library will be well repaid.

The patrons, too, should be consulted in the selection of the works to be ordered, and while doing so the librarian may often find opportunities for directing their choice towards the better class of literature. Liberal treatment of the pat-

rons should make them earnest and effective supporters, so that the range of work to be done by the library could be enlarged and the number of patrons gradually increased.

Now as to finances. Both the small free libraries and the small public libraries find difficulties in financing their work, and it is frequently found that for incorporated towns and villages where the assessment is less than \$500,000, the library for subscribers is the more successful. With a small assessment the practical limit of the yearly taxation is \$250; at the same time the fact that it is a public institution cuts away its support by public functions and donations of one kind and another. The public subscription library will get from \$100 to \$150 from its subscribers and a liberal grant from the municipality. When its concert, bazaar or entertainment is announced it will find a liberal support in this direction. And here we may notice that such a public function conducted by a local company is not only valuable to raise money but enlists public sentiment and support in the right direction, and that is on the well-known principle that what costs us something in time, effort or money we value more highly.

Aid may fairly be looked for from the County Council. Some already make a specified grant each year to all those qualified for securing the Government grant. This grant, though never large, is a help not to be despised and once a County Council gets into the plan there will not be much difficulty in having it continued.

It is to be assumed that the municipality in which the library is situated will respond to any appeal for aid and in any event the effort to secure such should be regularly made. These are the sources of revenue of the smaller libraries, and though not large, have been sufficient to build up many considerable and some really valuable collections of books throughout this Province. Let us, then, give all honor to those who have labored in this direction and without any pecuniary reward.

Referring now to the number of dormant libraries. They may be estimated at nearly 150. The cause of this is not generally known and I want to lay before you the circumstances which caused the greater part of these to become dormant.

From about 1880 onward the Government of this Province acted on a policy of great liberality towards all the libraries. They gave a maximum grant of \$200 for books and \$50 for reading rooms on condition that the library spent that amount in reading matter. This only required the library to raise sufficient to pay the local expenses. The result was that the number of libraries increased rapidly and steadily until the amounts payable to the libraries became greater than the amount annually voted by the Legislature. At the same time wholesale book firms were so anxious to secure orders that they sent in books to be paid for out of the succeeding grant. For two or three years the grant was reduced by ten or fifteen per cent. Then about seven years ago the Department suddenly discovered that the phrase "dollar for dollar" meant only one-half of the amount actually paid out in cash by the library, and acted on this without warning. Had any scheme been devised to cut down the number of libraries through the Province it could not have been more effective, for a very large proportion of the libraries were thrown into financial confusion—even of those which did not succumb. Libraries which formerly drew grants of \$200 to \$250 have since 1903 felt proud to receive from \$40 to \$100 and have earned that with greater effort than the former \$200.

So we would urge that the Department having been at fault in the suddenness of the change in regulations, should now do something to assist in the revival of the dormant libraries, many of which are in educational centres scattered all over the Province.

Now, after securing your attention so long, you feel like asking, what can we do about it? And I venture to offer the following suggestions; (and permit me to say that punitive measures will be ineffective):

1. That as very few library boards know of the plan on which the Government grant is now divided, that hereafter the secretary of each Board be sent a notice when the grant is allotted, showing just how much is allowed that library on account of reading room, grant on receipts, and for newspapers and magazines, for books (not fiction) and for books (fiction) and also state if deductions are made, the reason why. This, I know, would be an invaluable aid to the Directors in planning their year's expenditures.

2. That a special grant of \$50 to \$100 be made towards the organization of new libraries or the revival of dormant ones, under suitable conditions, of course.

3. The increasing of the Library Institutes to twenty or twenty-five with the expectation that the President and Secretary of each one would be selected with a view to fitness for acting as organizing officers throughout their districts, with payment of their necessary travelling expenses. It is not to be expected that the Inspector can personally visit all the libraries in the Province, but he could meet all their representatives at the various institutes to be held throughout the Province.

I close by thanking you for your attention and trust that either through the suggestions I have made or in some other way the number and organization of our smaller libraries may be bettered, believing that this is one of the greatest public necessities in the Province.

THE PRESIDENT: I am sure we must all feel that this meeting has been very much benefited by the very able paper we have heard. We would be very glad to have suggestions.

MR. STEELE thought there should be a public library in every school in the country—(hear, hear)—and that instead of looking to the Government for aid we should look to our County and Township Councils. Special grants should be given by the County Councils to the larger towns and those libraries made free for the whole county; so that we would have first, the small libraries in each school, and then larger libraries in the towns, all of them being free. This would solve the question of trained librarians, who should be trained in the Normal Schools. If we have our teachers trained for work as librarians, we could then afford to pay them, as we have the librarian on the ground, and in larger places some additional provision might be made. This scheme is feasible because in Normal Schools they are doing a lot of work that is High School work—they have enough to do without trespassing on the work of the High School. (Hear, hear.) They should throw out a lot of those subjects and devote part of the time to training teachers to become librarians, and thus we would have no difficulty even in filling positions in larger libraries, because some librarians having got a taste of the work might prosecute their studies farther in connection with it. (Applause.)

DR. DALES thought, on the other hand, that the public library should be made the centre from which the schools should tend to draw their information. Some scheme should be evolved by which all the school sections surrounding a small village should be connected with the library, so that by the payment of a small fee every man in that school section could draw from that library his information. He thought it a mistake to have school libraries distinct from public libraries. As a teacher he had established a library in a public school, but after he left in a short time there was no library there. Instead of causing the expense of a library in a school, the scholars should feel that they have an interest in the public library. In that way the benefit of all our libraries would be extended.

He regretted that the Inspector had not spoken of the new classifications. It seemed to him there was an effort to freeze out free libraries by fixing it so that they could not get the grant, on account of the classification of fiction and non-fiction.

A DELEGATE: If we judge of the present-day tendencies is not all history fiction? (Laughter.)

THE PRESIDENT introduced Miss Ahern, of Chicago, the editor of "Public Libraries." He requested her to make some observations on library questions.

MISS AHERN, after expressing her great pleasure at being present, said the corner stone on which the temple of library work was built was the spirit and knowledge of those in charge. Technical training of the librarian was very important for best results. The trouble with the small libraries too many times was that there had been a reaching down from those connected with large libraries, and a lack of knowledge of the real situation. She thought a library with \$4 a year, or one that had but \$25 a year, had better not be a library. (Hear, hear.) Let us have one good strong district library. Let us develop the process of library loan so that this good strong library may have its library centres here and there and yonder, and a travelling library going out from that good strong centre manned by people who know how to make the best of the opportunity and of the material in hand; allow the Inspector to see that it is a good pumping-station, as it were, that is sending out into each one of those well-defined channels the help that comes from a good strong institution. A library that is half-starved, that is dormant, had better die. (Hear, hear.) Too many people are willing to have shadow instead of substance. She instanced a library in Nova Scotia, which is poor, but is in charge of one of the best librarians she ever saw—a man who is spending the best years of his life and giving a vitality that is dynamic, who is keeping in touch with the modern life of the library movement. It was not fair for the town to have such an able librarian going around to find ways of doing good for the town. She congratulated the Association on the spirit that had grown tremendously since her first visit seven years ago, and she was pleased to see the distance this Association had travelled. (Applause.)

MR. HODGES told of the Cincinnati Public Library having taken in many small village libraries as branches without changing their names, and travelling libraries were established in twenty different points throughout the county, and school libraries in schoolrooms, with the result that the supply of books which could be placed in any farming community in that county was simply unlimited. The books were not sent to a schoolhouse, where there may not be more than a couple of hundred people within a radius of a mile; the 150 books were sent to stay perhaps a month or two, then they were taken away and their places supplied by others. We have 30,000 or 40,000 books in circulation in this way through those country districts where they will do the greatest amount of good. Twenty-six local library boards have been wiped out, and they were glad to give up their struggle, and in place of 150 books in one of those branches there are now about 3,000, which are constantly being replaced, so that in the course of a year a district has a benefit of 5,000 or 10,000 volumes.

DR. CHARTERIS told of the schools in his district having started a library and thus diminished the supply from the public library. He believed the school should come to the library and not the library to the school. If the school grants were given to the public library it would be a great advantage to both. He suggested that the Government be asked to increase the grant to the libraries instead of encouraging libraries in the schools.

DR. VOADEN said that in his city the Board of Education had been granting \$100 or \$150 to the school to buy books. After full discussion it had been decided that the library was the only institution to buy and circulate books, and last year nearly \$200 worth of books were purchased; many of which had been placed in the large public schools, which were treated as branch libraries, the principals of the schools reporting regularly to the library. He reported increased interest in library work in the schools.

MR. CARSON had found that in the United States it was compulsory for the students in some Normal Schools to take library training before they were permitted to teach schools. A census of London, with 50,000 population, in which there were a thousand boys and girls attending the seventh and eighth grades in public schools, showed that 800 between the ages of 12 and 14 had never in their lives opened an encyclopedia. In the twelve or fourteen schools there were only four encyclopedias, most of which were old and out of date. There were five or six dictionaries and only one atlas, everything being in bad shape. He said the Normal School pupils who came to his library were the greenest people that came to look for information in books, and they should be taught where to find things when they want them. If Normal students were trained in library work they would encourage libraries wherever they went and would become missionaries in bringing the library to the school. He considered school libraries as feeders to the public library. How are young people to learn the value of books if they are not taught in the public schools? He advocated the introduction of a course of ten or twelve lectures in each Normal School, and thus starting the foundation of this system. The scheme was working successfully in Newark, N.J., in the University of Illinois and in many other places. They should understand the use of children's literature and of the use of books as tools. (Applause.) He moved that the Department of Education introduce lectures on the use of books and that this motion be referred to the Committee on Resolutions.

SECRETARY HARDY seconded the motion, which was carried.

THE PRESIDENT nominated as the Resolution Committee, Messrs. Carson, Steele, Denholme, Cuttle. As Auditors, Messrs. Henwood and Hamilton.

MR. D'ALMEIDA spoke of Marsh's Thesaurus Dictionary.

MR. DENHOLME read the report of the Nominating Committee as follows:

THE OFFICERS FOR 1910-1911.

President, A. W. Cameron, B.A., Woodstock.

First Vice-President, L. J. Burpee, F.R.G.S., The Public Library, Ottawa.

Second Vice-President, C. R. Charteris, M.D., The Public Library, Chatham.

Secretary, E. A. Hardy, B.A., 8 University Crescent, Toronto.

Treasurer, H. H. Langton, B.A., University of Toronto.

Councillors.

Geo. H. Locke, M.A., The Public Library, Toronto.

W. F. Moore, The Public Library, Dundas.

Mrs. E. J. Jacobi, Librarian Public Library, Oshawa.

David Williams, The Public Library, Collingwood.

D. M. Grant, B.A., The Public Library, Sarnia.

H. J. Clarke, B.A., The Public Library, Belleville.

His Honor Judge Hardy, Ex-President, The Public Library, Brantford.

MR. DENHOLME said the Nominating Committee were strongly of opinion that our very efficient Secretary was not paid enough for the work he is required to do, the Institutes having added immensely to his duties.

MR. HAMILTON seconded the adoption of the Report. Carried.

MR. W. J. ROBERTSON said the Secretary had done a great deal of work for many years past and \$100 was a very small amount. He thought it only fair that this should be increased to \$150.

THE PRESIDENT thought the suggestion was very proper.

REV. MR. BRADLEY agreed to the suggestion, but pointed out that last year's work was especially heavy and he would move that Mr. Hardy receive an honorarium of \$50 over and above the salary for the work he has already done, and then let us go on with the increased salary also.

MR. CARSON seconded the motion.

MR. ROBERTSON agreed to embody this suggestion in his motion.

THE PRESIDENT heartily agreed with all that had been said as to Mr. Hardy's work. Personally he appreciated very much the advantage of having Mr. Hardy's great experience and knowledge of library matters.

Mr. Robertson's resolution was carried amid applause, and Secretary Hardy expressed his appreciation of the Association's appreciation. It had been a great joy to him during the past ten years to give his services, and his greatest reward was in seeing library work expanding throughout the Province. His hope was that within the next five years the revival would be so complete that we should see as perfect a library system as our present school system. (Hear, hear.)

MR. HAMILTON would like to have referred to the Resolution Committee the suggestion that the secretaries of the district institutes should be made members of this Association, coming here as accredited representatives, their expenses being paid.

DR. CHARTERIS seconded the motion.

After some discussion the motion was agreed to.

Meeting adjourned at 5 p.m., till 8 p.m.

EVENING SESSION.

Monday, March 28th, 1910.

PRESIDENT HARDY called upon Mr. D. M. Grant for his report on Technical Education in Public Libraries.

MR. GRANT read sections from the printed report of the Committee on Technical Education in Public Libraries, and during the reading of these extracts a good many questions were asked, the replies to which in most cases were to be found in the report itself.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON TECHNICAL EDUCATION IN PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

The question of Technical Education in Public Libraries was brought before the Ontario Library Association by Rev. W. A. Bradley, B.A., Berlin, in his presidential address last year, and by the late Inspector Leavitt in a paper dealing with the subject.

As a result of the discussion that followed a special committee was appointed to consider the matter carefully and report at the 1910 meeting of the Association. This committee consists of D. M. Grant, Sarnia, Chairman; L. K. Murton, Oshawa; W. Tytler, Guelph; R. Alexander, Galt; E. A. Hardy, Toronto, and His Hon. Judge Hardy, Brantford, ex officio.

As a result of the consideration of this question by the Executive Committee at its meeting in Brantford in November, it was decided to request the Minister of Education to bear the expenses of the meeting of this committee in Toronto. The Minister assented and the committee met in Toronto, January 8th, 1910, and after discussion instructed the Secretary to address the following letter to the Minister of Education:

JANUARY 14TH, 1910.

HON. R. A. PYNE, M.D., LL.D., M.P.P.,

Minister of Education,

Education Department,

Toronto.

DEAR DR. PYNE:—

Pursuant to authorization by the Deputy Minister, the Special Committee of the Ontario Library Association on Technical Education in the Public Library, met Saturday, 8th inst., in the Normal School, Inspector Nursey having recommended to yourself that in order to "facilitate and assist the deliberations of the Committee, the expenses of said Committee be borne by the Department."

There were present Messrs. D. M. Grant, Chairman, Sarnia; L. K. Murton, K.C., Oshawa; W. Tytler, Guelph; R. Alexander, Galt; His Hon. Judge Hardy, Brantford; Rev. W. A. Bradley, Berlin, and E. A. Hardy, Secretary. The Inspector of Public Libraries was present by invitation.

After a lengthy discussion of Mr. Leavitt's paper read at the meeting of the Ontario Library Association last April, it was agreed that the Committee endorse the first six propositions of the paper, which were as follows:

- (1) Commence with a small league of libraries located in industrial centres.
- (2) Each library in the league to raise not less than \$100.00 for the purchase of technological books and magazines, covering as far as possible the principal trades of the town.
- (3) Divert \$1,000 for the purpose of technical books from the \$3,000 grant made for Travelling Libraries.
- (4) The Education Department to loan to each library in the league technical books to the value of not less than \$100.
- (5) In many instances the books loaned, after six months, could be transferred to another town. This would practically double the loan.
- (6) Have each library prepare a list showing the trades to be covered.

Inspector Nursey having stated that he had recommended to yourself that

"precedent to any action being taken or any further expense being incurred by the Department that a careful examination of the situation in the United States be made in order to see what has really been accomplished there, and that a sub-committee of the special committee of the Ontario Library Association be selected to visit certain convenient institutions in the United States, that have utilized in this connection the Technical Sections of their libraries, and that you were in general sympathy with the idea," it was agreed by the Committee that it would be most advantageous to do so.

After further discussion the following motion was passed:

That a sub-committee of this committee be appointed to gather all possible information and to make as exhaustive report as possible, said report to be made to this committee prior to the next meeting of the Ontario Library Association; the sub-committee to consist of the Chairman, Mr. Grant; the President of the Association, His Hon. Judge Hardy, and Mr. E. A. Hardy, Secretary of the Ontario Library Association.

The Inspector further stated that in the event of such a visit of inspection being undertaken he believed that in view of the importance of the subject you would favourably consider the question of the expense of the suggested visit of this sub-committee being borne by the Government, it was further agreed that if deemed advisable by yourself that the sub-committee named visit such centres as the State Library, Albany, N.Y.; the Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, N.Y.; the Drexel Institute, Philadelphia; the Carnegie Institute, Pittsburg, or others, with the Inspector of Public Libraries, who would introduce the Committee and participate in the investigations as the representative of the Department of Education. Such a visit would occupy about a week and if this is deemed advisable and acceptable to yourself, the Committee would like to leave Toronto at an early day, the date to be yet arranged.

Yours respectfully,

(Signed) E. A. HARDY,

Secretary.

The Minister's reply being favourable, the special committee appointed to investigate American Libraries left on February 10th for this visit of inspection. Their report is as follows:

REPORT OF SUB-COMMITTEE.

The special committee consisted of D. M. Grant, Sarnia, Chairman; His Hon. Judge Hardy, President, Ontario Library Association, and E. A. Hardy, Secretary, Ontario Library Association.

ALBANY.

This committee, accompanied by Inspector Nursey, left Toronto Thursday evening, February 10th. The first place visited was the State Library at Albany, N.Y., where the committee had interviews with Mr. J. I. Wyer, Jr., Director of the State Library; Mr. W. R. Eastman, Chief of Division of Educational Extension; Mr. Asa Wynkoop, Inspector of Public Libraries, and Mr. F. L. Tolman, Reference Librarian. These gentlemen discussed the activities of their library at considerable length, and pointed out how the State Library was aiding in this matter of Technical Education in two ways: (a) By travelling libraries sent to local libraries or

study clubs on subjects under discussion by them, and (b) by providing a large collection of technical reference books for members of the civil service, especially those engaged in engineering and construction work, such as building of canals, highways, installation of electric plants, etc.

The State of New York has authorized the formation, in connection with the Public Schools, of Industrial Schools for boys of 14, and Trade Schools for those of 16 years of age, assisted by the State to the extent of \$500 for the first teacher and \$200 for each subsequent teacher in any department, and duplicates the amounts for each department established. (See pamphlet, "General Industrial and Trades Schools.")

BOSTON.

The committee spent Saturday, Sunday and part of Monday in and around Boston, and interviewed Dr. Snedden in the office of the State Librarian, and Mr. Frank Waldo in the office of the State Commissioner of Education, the heads of these institutions not being available. Massachusetts some years ago appointed a commission on Industrial Education. The reports of this commission are at the disposal of your committee, but they relate more particularly to trade and industrial schools. There is evidently a great deal of interest in the State of Massachusetts in the matter of industrial education, an interest which extends widely throughout the United States, as is evidenced by the fact that legislation on Industrial Education has been obtained in 48 States. Ontario must take up the question of Industrial Education unless we wish to be hopelessly in the rear in manufacturing. We spent Saturday afternoon in a careful inspection of the Boston Public Library, famous as an institution creditable to the culture of the New England metropolis, and are indebted to Mr. Otto Fleischner, Assistant Librarian, for kindness shown our delegation and for his interesting interview on Technical Education through the Library. We found also that the Massachusetts Library Association had devoted one of their meetings recently to a consideration of the question we were studying. One of the most valuable suggestions in connection with the library was the possibilities of the music section, as illustrated in the Boston Public Library.

WORCESTER.

Monday afternoon was spent in Worcester, Mass. The activity of the former librarian of Worcester, Mr. S. S. Green, in the direction of helping the artisan through the library has made this library rather famous. We had the good fortune to have a lengthy interview with Mr. Green, who is now librarian emeritus. We also interviewed the present librarian, Mr. R. K. Shaw, the General Secretary, and the Educational Director of the Y. M. C. A., and were fortunate in meeting Mr. Milton P. Higgins and Mr. W. M. Spaulding, two leading manufacturers of Worcester. Mr. Higgins is on the Executive Committee of the National Society for the Promotion of Industrial Education and was a member of the Massachusetts State Commission on Industrial Education. The Worcester Library has been able to accomplish considerable in the direction of Technical Education of the working men for two reasons: (a) The active sympathy and personal interest of its librarian with those who go to consult books of a technical sort. This spirit of welcome and sympathy pervaded the whole staff of the institution. (b) Through a large and carefully chosen collection of books dealing with the industries of the town, which were made easily available to all concerned. We also inspected the newly opened Trade School in Worcester for wood and iron industries, and the Superintendent told us that they expected to use the technical books in the Public Library almost wholly for their theoretical instruction, and that he, himself, had got the whole of his theoretical training from a public library.

PROVIDENCE.

In Providence, R.I., where we spent Monday evening, we were fortunate enough to be shown through the technical department by the Assistant Librarian in charge of that section, Mr. Wheeler. We were extremely sorry to have missed Mr. Foster, who has done so much to make Providence one of the outstanding libraries of the United States. The collection of technical books in Providence was housed in a large room with facilities for study, the whole collection being carefully catalogued and indexed, and judging by appearances the books appear to be much used. Two of the valuable sections of this technical collection were the 700 trade catalogues (sent gratis by the various manufacturing concerns), and the bound volumes of trade and technical journals and periodicals, the library also containing some 2,000 other books on technical subjects. Another part of the library of great interest and value was the collection of floral designs for the use of art classes or artisans who had any work in designing. These designs were gathered from magazines, volumes of pictures, seed catalogues and many other sources. We found that this idea has been worked out in other departments of design in other libraries. Providence is well known as a centre of silverware and jewelry manufacturing, and anything that may assist the workers in these industries has special attention in the technical section.

NEWARK.

Tuesday was spent in a visit to the Newark Public Library. Here we were received by Mr. J. C. Dana, one of the most active and influential librarians on the continent. The activities of this library are many-sided. Fortunate in its exceedingly well planned and well equipped library building, and still more fortunate in its energetic and resourceful librarian, Newark has certainly achieved a high degree of efficiency as a public library. The technical collection of this library comprises at least 10,000 volumes and is housed in a very fine room liberally supplied with all facilities for study. A special librarian who is an expert in this matter presides over this department. The open shelf system is in vogue here as almost everywhere, the books in stacks at one side of the room and tables for study at the opposite side. When we visited the room, about 40 men, mostly mechanics, were busy reading technical books, and the librarian informed us that this was about the slackest hour of the day, 12 noon, while in the evening the whole capacity, about 150, was usually filled. This system is, in our opinion, the best and most helpful to the artisan that can be devised.

The Board of Education, from time to time, provides lectures on suitable subjects, many of which are illustrated, the library possessing a fine auditorium and a first-class lantern. Mr. Dana proved a perfect mine of information to the committee, not only on this but on other library matters, and he was accompanied through the whole interview by Mr. Richard C. Jenkinson, one of the leading manufacturers of Newark, and one of the most active members of the Library Board. In this library we noted two things of very special interest. One was the series of collections to illustrate the processes in different lines of arts and handicrafts. For instance, in the matter of cartoons there was the original drawing by the artist and a copy of the cartoon in the newspaper and the various stages through which the cartoon passed in the printing office. Similar illustrations were given of half-tones and etchings, in the latter instance all the tools being added. The other item of interest was a collection of pictures on all sorts of topics of interest. Possibly some thousands of subjects were illustrated in this way, the col-

lection comprising about 15,000 mounted on cards and 85,000 unmounted. The method was simply to gather pictures from every conceivable source, newspapers, magazines, books, catalogues, etc., and put them in a large manilla holder, writing the subject on the upper left-hand corner of the cover and filing them alphabetically. These collections were invaluable to teachers, designers, students and many others. This library runs its own printing plant and prints many texts, mottoes and extracts from famous authors, which are framed and hung throughout the library, and freely supplied to the schools and other public institutions. The collection in the Art room of copies of the old masters and many handsomely bound volumes of the world's famous pictures do much to develop a taste for art, and have a most refining influence.

BROOKLYN.

On Wednesday the committee visited the Pratt Institute and Free Library, Brooklyn, N.Y., where we had an informing interview with Mr. Edward F. Stevens, the Librarian of Pratt Free Library, and Miss Mary W. Plummer, Director of the Pratt Library School. Pratt Library has for years paid special attention to its collection of technical books, and Mr. Stevens was for three years in charge of that department. His bibliographies of technical books are esteemed so highly that they are circulated by the New York State Library as their official lists. Mr. Stevens is an enthusiast on the matter, but places great emphasis on the personal interest of the librarian in the individual borrower. Here, as in other places, we found that the trade and technical periodicals and the catalogues and manuals issued by the great manufacturing concerns were all of highest value. Inasmuch as a good deal of this literature can be obtained gratis this point is especially worthy of note by our librarians.

Owing to the unsettled conditions in the New York Public Library as well as to the limitations of time we were not able to visit this library.

BUFFALO.

We visited Buffalo Public Library on Thursday morning, being shown through the library by Mr. H. L. Brown, the Librarian. Buffalo's chief claims to distinction are the open shelf rooms, the exceedingly effective system of school libraries, and the large annual circulation of all classes of books. All of these points were noted with interest and here again we found that an efficient librarian paid great attention to the matter of technical books for working men, and that the atmosphere of welcome in the library was a factor of importance.

NIAGARA FALLS.

Thursday afternoon we had the pleasure of visiting Niagara Falls, N.Y., Public Library, of which Miss Witmer is the efficient Librarian. The spaciousness of the rooms, the absolutely open access to all parts of the library, and the beautiful children's room were the outstanding features of this library. The Librarian informed us that from time to time collections of books were sent to the employees of the largest manufacturing concerns in the city, a custom which we had noted in Buffalo and elsewhere.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

Summing up the results of our investigations we might state them as follows:

(1) That the results of our observations strengthen our conviction that the suggestions in Mr. Leavitt's paper were along the right lines and that we concur more heartily than ever with the suggestions already adopted by the full committee.

(2) That the selection of technical books, both those purchased by the local library and those supplied by the Department of Education, should be made by thoroughly competent persons.

(3) That every legitimate means should be used for publicity in connection with these books and that continuous effort should be made in this direction.

(4) That a separate room, if possible, should be set aside for the artisan, with the books in shelves around him.

(5) That reading Clubs of workmen should be formed to meet on stated nights.

(6) That foremen and other should be invited to meet the workmen and discuss matter in books.

(7) That lists of books on various subjects should be published frequently and repeated, from time to time, in the local press. The first insertion may not catch the artisan's eye, or at first sight appeal to him.

(8) That lists of books and articles on individual trades or subjects should be sent to the managers of factories with a request that they be posted in a conspicuous place.

(9) That leaflets or booklets containing brief outline reading course on various subjects carefully prepared by experts with our Canadian local conditions should be sent to factories, and that employers be requested to place such small leaflets in pay envelopes of employees.

(10) That trade journals should be bound at end of year and placed in shelves.

(11) That trade catalogues should be secured.

(12) That the attitude of the library through its staff should be entirely sympathetic and cordial to this movement and to all who wish to use technical books, if the best results are to be obtained in this department; and further, that a great deal of the success of this movement depends upon the ability of the librarian to render this section of the library useful to the inquirer.

(13) That Library Board should take up the matter of Technical Education in the Library with the manufacturers of the cities and towns and enlist their sympathy and support in inaugurating the local movement and that the foremen of shops be also called to meet at the local library and the aims and objects of the Technical Section explained and their support and co-operation obtained.

(14) That picture collections should be made where possible to assist those engaged in trades where designing is valuable, and also that some good photograph reproductions of great pictures, statues and buildings be hung upon the walls of the library to foster true artistic standards.

(15) That from correspondence with such centres as Binghamton, N.Y.; Dayton, Ohio; and Grand Rapids, Mich., we would recommend also the establishment of lecture courses on practical trade topics by competent practical people. The lectures in the places above mentioned have been exceedingly useful and very much appreciated.

(16) That the importance of evening classes for industrial vocation-education is felt by the Committee, and they would respectfully call the attention of the Trustees of Secondary Schools possessing the equipment suitable for such classes

to this matter, and urge them to give it careful and sympathetic consideration, and the Committee also recommends that the attention of the Education Department be called to the establishment of such classes.

As to the matter of instruction through the public library by any such scheme as Correspondence courses and examinations and recognition of such work by Government certificate or diploma, the committee do not feel at present able to offer any definite suggestions. They quite realize the possibilities of such a scheme, but they also realize the difficulties and feel that a great deal of consideration would need to be given to such a matter before it should be pronounced upon.

Respectfully submitted,

D. M. GRANT.

A. D. HARDY.

E. A. HARDY.

The committee in presenting this report to the Ontario Library Association desires to record its appreciation of the assistance of Mr. W. R. Nursey, Inspector of Public Libraries. His deep interest in the subject and his readiness to assist in every possible way have been constantly apparent and have done much to make this report possible. To the Minister of Education and the Deputy Minister also we desire to express our appreciation of their sympathy and financial assistance.

The committee trusts that in many of our libraries this matter may be taken up in earnest. Technical education is to the fore everywhere among nations desirous of maintaining their present standing or making any substantial progress. National governments, manufacturers' associations, trades unions, educational associations and public spirited individuals throughout the world are grappling with the question and the public library must not fail to take its share of the problem. Technical High Schools and trade schools can be established in only a comparatively few centres and the needs of the workingman in our small cities and towns, who is desirous of self improvement, must be met in some other way. The public library should provide this other way. It is the people's institution, the educational centre for all the people of the community and our librarians and library boards should realize their responsibility as custodians of a public trust and gladly do their best to make the public library a centre of technical education. From what we saw in most of the libraries, we are more than ever convinced that this purpose of the Public Library is entirely feasible.

(Signed),

D. M. GRANT.

L. K. MURTON.

W. TYTLER.

R. ALEXANDER.

E. A. HARDY.

A. D. HARDY.

REPORTS, BULLETINS AND OTHER MATERIAL IN THE HANDS OF THE COMMITTEE.

Library Periodicals—

Public Libraries, Jan., 1910.

Library Journal, March, 1908, March, 1909, Dec., 1909.

Universities—

University of Wisconsin. Report of the Director of the University Extension Division and some fifty syllabi of courses.

Ohio State University. Bulletin on Industrial Education.

State Publications—

New York. General Industrial and Trades Schools.

New York. Annual Report of Bureau of Labour Statistics, 1908, containing good Bibliography on Industrial Education.

Massachusetts. Reports of the Commission on Industrial Education, 1906, 1907, 1908.

Address by Dr. Hanus, on Industrial Education, under State auspices in Mass.

New Jersey. Report of the Committee on Industrial Education.

United States. 17th Annual Report of Commissioner of Labour on Trades and Technical Education, 1902.

Bureau of Education—

Elimination of pupils from school.

Instruction in Fine and Manual Arts.

Agricultural Education in the U. S.

German Views of American Education with particular reference to Industrial Development.

Manual of Industrial and Technical Education in the U. S., 1906.

President Roosevelt's Address—The Man Who Works With His Hands.

Public Library Reports and Bulletins—

Buffalo, N.Y.

Boston, Mass.

Worcester, Mass.

Providence, R.I.

Pratt Library, Brooklyn, N.Y.

Dayton, O.

Binghamton, N.Y.

Newark, N.J.

Pittsburg, Pa.

Grand Rapids, Mich.

Menomonie, Wis., Stout Institute.

Miscellaneous—

Brooklyn Institute, Arts and Sciences, Prospectus, 1909-10.

New York University School of Commerce, Accounts and Finance. Announcements, 1909-10.

National Society for the Promotion of Industrial Education.

Proceedings, 1908.

Report New York State Branch, 1908.

Legislative Summary No. 1, American Association for Labor Legislation:
Industrial Education in Public, Elementary and Secondary Schools.

Report of the Moseley Educational Commission to the United States, 1903.

MR. GRANT, in closing, said: We have no reason to be discouraged. I believe the libraries of Ontario are doing more with the money they have than is even done in the United States, except on this one line, and they are certainly a long way ahead of us in technical work.

A DELEGATE asked how the public library should begin this work.

REV. MR. BRADLEY told how they did in Berlin. They closed the library to the public for an afternoon; sent invitations to the heads of the 72 industries in that city, and about 100 men accepted the invitation. A display was made of the different books for mechanics; a short talk was given inviting them to the free use of the library, and asking for suggestions as to any books that were not in stock. It was found that in the departments of leather and laundry work there were no books, although both these trades were represented in the town. They immediately set to work to provide the books in this line. It was wise to keep in touch with the working men.

A discussion came up as to the best class of persons to advise as to the purchase of technical books and opinion was divided as to whether it was better to call in foremen or technical engineers. Some delegates said that foremen did not keep themselves posted in up-to-date technical literature.

MR. GRANT moved the adoption of the report and re-appointment of the same Committee or another one to co-operate with the Department or Inspector to carry out the recommendations made and also to develop the scheme still further in the coming year.

MR. KERR seconded the motion, suggesting that Rev. Mr. Bradley be added.

MR. GRANT suggested that His Honor Judge Hardy be added to the Committee.

MR. STEELE thought that a vote of thanks should be given to the members of the Committee for their labors. Carried.

SECRETARY HARDY read the paper by Mr. Edward F. Stevens, of Brooklyn, N.Y., Librarian of the Pratt Free Library, in the absence of that gentleman on account of illness of his wife.

TECHNICAL EDUCATION IN THE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

A year ago I was asked to read a brief paper before the Long Island Library Club in Brooklyn, describing the efforts of the Pratt Institute Free Library in behalf of the industrial public.

Early in that paper I made reference to an interesting item which I had just chanced to observe in a copy of the *Canadian Machinist* which had been put into my hands by a young machinery worker, who, proud of his contributions to it, wished me to see what he had written. That item, more inspiring far than the random shop notes of our friend, related to the activity of the Province of Ontario in bringing the public library into line with technical education by advancing a policy more progressive than any hitherto attempted, certainly much ahead of anything we were venturing in the United States. This was my reference:—

“Already Canada has taken steps in recognition of the natural relationship of the library to education. In Ontario a message is expected to be introduced at

the next legislative session by the Minister of Education which will establish a league of libraries in industrial centres for providing the text books of the principal trades of those centres for distribution to mechanics earnest for self-improvement. After completing a specified course of reading the men are to be examined, and those who pass will receive certificates of work done. This is only one phase of activity across the border."

And now I have been asked by your committee to suggest here in Toronto some things that the public library may do to promote technical education, and this, though I have been looking for a year to the Province of Ontario as the direction whence much inspiration should come to us in the States for most aggressive measures in this regard!

The scheme just referred to, if already in operation, requires much courage to put through, and skilful manipulation to make workable.

FUNCTIONS OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

The public library, with its manifold functions, of course cannot directly operate as a school, nor even as a department of a school system. It is an educational institution, original, unique, distinct, and yet not separate from those institutions of learning devoted to systematized teaching. The library's contribution to technical education must be by methods of its own, quite apart from the curriculum methods of a training school, else the library becomes itself a school, and should have to be rated as such. The dissemination of knowledge by the simple distribution of books is the library's function: to make this apply to the promotion of engineering and industrial training is its newest problem. The furnishing of texts, by which men shall learn a trade, to those who have no previous knowledge of the trade will never be wholly effectual. Trades are learned in the doing and text-books and reference books can only be supplementary to the tool and the machine. The industrial education carried on at Pratt Institute and in the technical schools now established and establishing throughout America, is through the medium of shops and laboratories, and books play only a very subordinate part in it. Yet whereas it has hitherto been contended that "book-learning" had nothing whatever in common with industrial efficiency, the libraries have begun to insist in turn that books *can* contribute to the skill of a man's hand, and are beginning to convince manual workers that books may become tools after all.

The public library takes up technical education where the school leaves off or falls short, and together with the teaching of experience goes on to perfect the industrious workman.

It was five years ago that the Applied Science Reference Room became a feature at the Pratt Institute Free Library.

The chief room on the main floor, which had been used as the newspaper and magazine room, was turned over to new purposes. Thereafter it became a centre of information on all things relating to the industrial welfare of the people. The needs of our own community, the nature of our industrial environment, the requirements of Pratt Institute and other neighboring schools guided its development and shaped its policy.

At its present state of usefulness it stands as a *reading-room* of current technical and industrial periodical literature, ranging from the highly professional to the trustworthy popular and amateur; a *working library* of standard engineering and practical books reserved for study on the premises (though allowed for limited circulation in exceptional cases); a *reference room* with bound files of

technical periodicals and patent reports, transactions of societies, trade catalogues, etc., with all possible accessories for getting quickly at precise information; a *general headquarters* for all inquirers in the field of specialized knowledge, and a natural *gateway* into the using and borrowing of books from the lending library in which men are encouraged by suggestion and recommendation to get hold of such texts and manuals as shall help them in their work.

LIBRARY PUBLICITY.

With a capable specialist in charge of such a room what further can be desired to arrive at the library's ambition in this direction? Only that those for whom this service is intended shall respond to their opportunity. Here lies a difficulty of genuine seriousness. There is no question whatever about the great need of the industrial public for such service, but to arouse an interest in self-improvement which shall bring men to grasp at every advantage offered is the active concern of every librarian. There is no limit, of course, to the amount of *advertising* that might be done if the library can afford the great cost that present-day advertising methods entails. At Pratt we are wisely limited to *free advertising*. This consists of occasional "write-ups" in the local papers, and more serious presentation of the case in the standard journals. Publicity of this kind is supplemented by the personal missionary activities of the man in charge of the work—speaking to classes and groups of men when he can get the opportunity—and the distribution, largely by hand, of attractive folders, calendars, blotters and similar devices, at points where men and boys work and congregate, at factories, clubs, lodges, schools, Y.M.C.A centres and outposts, etc. These methods are not employed to tease reluctant men to confer a favor upon the library by contributing to its statistics of attendance, not to thrust upon the hard-headed practical worker superfluous luxuries of literature, but simply to notify that numerous, industrious, indispensable, inglorious perhaps, but most important element in our community, the workers and learners, that the public library is not by any means alone a resort for the idle and literary, the studious, the philosopher and teacher, but has become every man's free possession committed to the service of his day's useful occupation. This is what we are trying to do at Pratt.

As librarians you are bent upon achieving large usefulness as public servants. That which elevates your profession out of the plane of professionalism, out of the drear routine of accumulating and manipulating literature, is the extent to which the printed word is made by you to become factors in the uplift of your fellowmen. Librarianship thus becomes a public service mission, and that mission is unfulfilled if it falls short of active sympathy with the efforts of men to progress in their day's work. Industry is a universal prerogative, and the permanency of democracy rests upon it. It is often taken as the measure of a nation's greatness. The library can, must, and shall contribute to promote it.

The movement towards bringing the library into harmonious relationship with industry is not alone to keep pace with the widespread interest in public technical education in America, but still more to make the library a natural leading and originating factor in industrial progress by directly meeting the needs of the worker. This is hardly the pursuit of a fad, as the libraries' more conservative critics have sometimes hinted.

Surely no suspicion of faddism can attach itself to an endeavor to remedy past neglect in providing for common necessities. And as man's necessity has become the library's opportunity, so the library is now alive to it.

As present-day librarians, I count you fortunate that the consciousness of the

widening range of library work possesses you. You have a new enthusiasm in that a force, hitherto latent, to energize a country's industrial activities is yours. You become a part of a manufacturing, engineering, inventive, scientific enterprise, one that unites learning to capital and labor and produces the efficiency which tends to individual superiority and national supremacy.

This library movement again is not more a *theoretical* than it is a faddist tendency. No more practical application of books to work out ends has ever been conceived.

CONCRETE ILLUSTRATIONS.

Let us seek a few concrete vindications of this claim.

A machinist who understands his work in so far as he has learned to operate a lathe with precision in a great plant, like the Pratt and Whitney shops in Hartford, for example, realizes that he has virtually become a mechanical part of the lathe, a mere automatic tool, because he is compelled as a lathe operator in a great works to confine himself to that machine alone. It would interfere with economical production, you see, to shift a workman about in order just to school him in the general handling of machine tools.

He aspires to become a skilled machinist to do general machine work, and withdraws from the shops. Engaging then as an experienced workman, he is at once set at the task of boring a pump cylinder, let us say. He has never done just that thing, it is true, but he is now an expert machinist, and that is not an unusual undertaking which confronts him. He does not dare to consult his associates. That would be unprofessional and would humiliate him. Where shall he seek the necessary data to redeem his reputation? Where else than in the public library? Where else to be sure? The work he is about to attempt has been done by many before him, and the *modus operandi* is on record in print. The satisfaction of the librarian who indicates to such seeker the source of information that saves the situation is second only to the relief of the man whose situation has thus been saved.

The aspirant to a position or promotion in the federal, state, or municipal civil service in engineering branches eagerly looks for the posting of coming examinations on the public bill board. He has the requisite fundamental knowledge, but desires the special information needed to meet the questions of the pending examinations. He cannot go about buying books. Who's to advise him what to buy? Again the public library is the proper resort. Not long ago a young man called to proudly show me his appointment to a remunerative engineering position in the government service. "Do you remember," he asked, "my coming here in September to get points on the exams.?"

The young engineer just emerged from a technical school enters his career independent for the first time of teacher and laboratory, and wholly relying upon his own ingenuity. He has really learned only how to learn at school the new tasks to which he sets his hands must be learned in the doing. A few books of calculations, tables and formulas are immediately indispensable to him, but contingencies are sure to arise when certain other books of special, unusual, or extensive character may be as indispensable to him. Shall he attempt at the outset a library of his own to fortify himself against all possible emergencies? Can he afford to acquire such a library, and carry it about with him from one scene of operations to another? Can he risk the purchase of costly books that are constantly undergoing the changes incident to developing sciences? These questions early confront every technical graduate, and they can be solved only by appeal to the public library, where up-to-date, essential, systematized, indexed, and in every way made accessible technical literature must be kept in reach for the critical occasion.

Grant, then, that the free library is, and should be, enlisted in the service of this public.

The greater libraries are recognizing the importance of industrial literature to the extent of establishing distinct departments, devoted exclusively to the useful arts conducted by men whose special qualification is the administration of technical subjects. Men with the requisite equipment are still uncommon. It is a far-seeing library beginner who aspires to adequate preparation for responding to the call to such work. It is true that public libraries endowed on a scale warranting extensive development in special lines are still few. But every librarian can undertake to meet the needs of his community in the broadest manner possible. No one wants to conduct a library in a place that is not industrially active and wide-awake, so it is the part of every prospective library worker to anticipate serving that element in his community that contributes to its industrial importance.

A few considerations may now be advanced that your intentions may be guided into channels leading to greatest efficiency.

BOOK SELECTION.

A vital concern is obviously the matter of *book selection*. If I can be of any help in dispelling some of the many phantoms of perplexity that have clouded the facts in the subject of technical book selection for the small library, I shall consider my self fortunate. Be assured at the start that the undertaking presents no formidable obstacles. If you are desirous of doing this thing, the end is within reach. Learn your community. Discover its industries, its schools, its enterprises. Then get what these elements need, and—the thing is not done, but is rapidly getting under way. Electrical, mechanical, municipal, and domestic engineering are universally applicable. Particular industries and trades—regional engineering interests such as mining among hills, agricultural in the plains, and marine on the coast—will require investigation according to locality. A conception of the probable needs of the people can readily be formed before turning to the actual choice of books. When the time comes for book buying, may many of you be so fortunate as to begin afresh, building up a library from the outset of new material. A new technical library will be so much more alive and homogeneous than one erected upon a previously laid foundation.

There are in existence lists of recommended books that can at once be checked up. Don't make the mistake of asking your book dealer to check them up for you. He doesn't know how to do it, nor is he disinterested. A case in point is that of a well-known book house whose representative called upon me not long ago announcing that they had been entrusted with the selection of technical books for a public library, and asking my advice as to what they must do not to betray their incapacity.

The first list that I should like to recommend, and do recommend with many reservations, is the Descriptive List of Technical Books prepared by a committee of the Society for the Promotion of Engineering Education. The edition of 1906, published by McClurg, of Chicago, though including many excellent titles, is now out of date. The edition of 1909, reported to the Annual Meeting of the Society held last June, was unfortunately found to be insufficiently revised and thereupon turned back to the committee for re-editing. It is disappointing not to be able at this time to point to that list as the first one to obtain as the groundwork selection. The 1910 edition is still only in prospect. The secretary of the society has recently written to enlist the co-operation of the Applied Science Department of the Pratt

Institute Free Library in the revision contemplated, and while a wholly satisfactory document cannot be expected under existing circumstances, I think that a very fair list of trustworthy books may be looked for from that quarter this spring. The method of distributing this forthcoming list has not been determined upon. Any inquiries with respect to it may be addressed to the Applied Science Room of the Pratt Library.

Obtain lists of selected books published by libraries that make special effort. In the A.L.A. Booklist of February, 1908, was published *Some Industrial Arts Books of Popular Use in the Public Library of St. Joseph, Missouri*—an unusually good selection of its kind.

A list of Practical Books on Electricity, Machine Shop Practice, Foundry Practice, etc., was printed by the Louisville (Kentucky) Public Library in 1909. When such lists catalogue selected titles with annotations they become extremely easy to use, but full bibliographies of technical subjects require the exercise of great caution, though these bibliographies have of course great value to the intelligent chooser. Those portions of the *Classified Catalogue of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburg* which relate to the useful arts, may be had at small cost. The *Finding List of the Chicago Public Library on Useful Arts*, dated June, 1908, comes gratis upon request. Greenwood's *Classified Guide to Technical and Commercial Books*, published by Scott, Greenwood & Co., in London, though now five years old, is a very useful compilation for present-day reference for industrial lines outside of engineering.

Among the more recent special lists might be named:

A Select Bibliography of Technical Chemistry in the *Chemical Engineer* of December, 1908.

A Review of the Literature of Reinforced Concrete, reprinted from the *Engineering Digest*, June, 1909; and similar to it—

Notes on the Literature of Roads, Streets, and Pavements, from the same source in the summer of last year.

Coming now to lists published by dealers, it would pay to notice a few that ought to be at hand.

The McGraw Publishing Co., now the McGraw-Hill Book Co., issues a good list of scientific books of all publishers which has been annually revised.

Messrs. Munn & Co., publishers of the *Scientific American*, put out each year a still fuller list of practical books. Some care in the use of this will enable one to get suggestions in many unusual industrial branches.

The D. Van Nostrand Co. issue a rather tardy *Monthly List of Scientific Literature*, which any library may get, and still better certain extensive bibliographies. That of Electricity appeared under date of July, 1909. One on Chemical Technology and Chemistry, in January, 1908. These are revised at intervals. Briefer lists on occasional subjects may be looked for from this firm from time to time. Getting hold of such catalogues may be only embarrassment if by them the inexperienced buyer expects to be guided in the discriminating choice of books. But any list may always be submitted to men of standing in the community who will be interested to indicate material that would be of value from their own point of view. Any librarian of a technical department of another library owes every courtesy to fellow librarians interested in the branches in which he specializes. Let there be a mutual interchange of the profits of experience.

There was set on foot at the A.L.A. Conference at Bretton Woods last summer a movement for uniting all libraries doing specialized work into an organization to be known as the Special Libraries Association. In November of last year the

permanent organization was perfected in New York City. One conspicuous purpose of the society is the preparation of bibliographies that shall enable all librarians to determine what literature is available and desirable in unusual departments of knowledge. The activities of this Association may be watched with interest.

I will allude only very briefly to the subject of current purchasing of technical literature. If inspection of books and the reading of reviews in engineering journals cannot be expected of a busy general librarian, it will be safe enough to accept the conclusions of others who are required to do that sort of thing. The A.L.A. Book List is constantly expanding in its inclusion of technical literature, and its recommended titles have in all cases been carefully reviewed. The annotated monthly and quarterly Bulletins of such libraries as the Carnegie, Pittsburgh, and Pratt Institute can be consulted with some confidence. The annotated List of Technical Books of 1908, to be followed shortly by a similar list for 1909, prepared by the Applied Science Department of the Pratt Institute Free Library, is an effort to suggest titles that have proved themselves of value for the purpose indicated in the descriptive notes. It is hoped that such lists may not be unavailing as suggestive for present and even future book selection.

The day is probably not distant when the American Library Association (possibly too the Ontario Library Association) shall enlarge its advisory function to the extent of instituting regular and systematic recommendations of technical books for all public libraries. The day of spontaneous co-operative effort in the evaluation of literature is already here.

TECHNICAL PERIODICALS.

Assuming that some of you may enter or are already engaged in the technical field exclusively, independence of judgment can be your privilege. You may be within or sufficiently near a book centre, to inspect books personally; in any event, you will not fail to search the leading journals for reviews. With all allowances for prejudice prompted sometimes unfavorably by the arrogance of a reviewer who poses as an expert and final authority, or sometimes too favorably by a journal which is tempted by loyalty to its publishers to lavish undue praise upon the books issued by its own house, reviews are of very great service to the technical bookbuyer. The Current Literature Supplement accompanying the mid-month issues of the *Engineering News* is the most ambitious and satisfactory effort of the kind. Every other journal of standing should be scanned upon its appearance for Book Notes. The *Engineer* and *Engineering*, London papers relating to general branches; the *Engineering Record*, a very important American civil engineering paper; the *Electrician* of London; the *Electrical World* of New York, the *Electric Railway Journal* on electrical topics, the *Railway Age Gazette* for rail-roading, the *American Machinist* and *Machinery* for machine shop interests, *Power* for the steam engine, the *Engineering and Mining Journal* for mines and minerals, the *Iron Age* for general technology, *Nature* for general and applied science, the *Building Age*, formerly *Carpentry and Building*; *Inland Printer* and other special papers for their respective trades, the *Journal of the American Chemical Society* for chemistry, and the *Journal of Engineering and Industrial Chemistry* for chemical technology, are some of the more prominent periodicals which must be watched for notices that will helpfully affect the conclusions of the intending purchaser.

To attempt to name individual books that should be accepted without question as standards of technical reference would avail little, I fear, as technical encyclopedias have become almost impossible owing to the elaboration and rapid changing of the knowledge of industrial science.

GENERAL WORKS.

Ure, Spon, Knight, Benjamin, once so useful, now so useless, are finding their niches in the catacombs of the curiosities of literature. Nothing has arisen to take their places. Authors and publishers hesitate to assume the risk of attempting ambitious works of technical reference, and properly so.

Henley's *Encyclopedia of Engineering* and the *Allied Trades*, edited by Horner, the fifth and concluding volume of which has come to hand this winter, is the nearest modern approach to books of that kind. It is published by Virtue, in London, and is intensely English, and, moreover, is strong only in the direction of machine tools, while weak everywhere else—wholly lacking in many particulars.

The volumes of the *International Library of Technology*, published by the *International Correspondence Schools* at Scranton, Pa., happily have proved themselves most adequate for general technical reference, and make up in a measure for the lack of more profound authorities.

POCKETBOOKS.

Perhaps the safest recommendations that can be made are the standard pocket-books that are everywhere recognized:—

In civil engineering—

Trautwine, now in its 19th edition, 1909, with much new matter on the uses of concrete in engineering construction.

I have heard the rumor that Mansfield Merriman, author of many authoritative books and professor at Lehigh University, is at work upon a pocket-book to rival *Trautwine*. If that is true, *Trautwine* will have to look to its laurels.

In mechanical engineering—

Kent, "The Mechanical engineers' Bible." It has long been much in need of revision, and I am glad to say that Wiley promises a new edition for this spring.

Supplee appeared in 1907 as a claimant for the position which *Kent* had long held undisputed. It is an excellent effort, but is not nearly as extensive or thorough as its rival.

Haswell, long at the front of engineering pocket-books and now in its 72nd edition, has reluctantly given place to the better and newer books, and must inevitably pass soon into obscurity. The author died two years ago at a very advanced age, and now his book is passing by.

In electrical engineering there are two best books in this class—

Foster and the *Standard*.

The fifth edition of *Foster* and the first edition of the *Standard* appeared almost simultaneously in 1908. They are both deserving of high praise. *Foster* is oftenest asked for as it is best known, but the *Standard* has even a greater variety of electrical information more concisely given.

In the building trades—

Kidder stands alone at the top. Now in its fifteenth edition it is a veritable encyclopedia of modern construction.

In chemistry—

Van Nostrand's Chemical Annual is a praiseworthy undertaking. Its second issue in the autumn of 1909, over two years after the first, shows marked improvement and gives promise of greater consequence as it receives better support in future from the public.

For the machine shop—

There is the new American Machinist's Handbook, an almost perfect product for the machinist.

Innumerable other pocket-books of rules, formulas, and data exist, many of exceeding value, but I have wandered enough in this path, which leads so far that it might have been safest not to enter it at all.

I am looking at this matter of reference books from the point of view of an American. The standard English handbooks will doubtless appeal more strongly to the Canadians than to ourselves. The difference in many particulars that exists between English methods, terminology, standards of measurement, apparatus, systems of money, etc., make even such admirable authorities as Dawson (Engineering and Electric Traction Pocket Book) of very little help to the American railway man.

TRADE PUBLICATIONS, CATALOGUES, ETC.

There is in the literature of technology a class of publications which have not been accorded by bookmen and libraries the recognition they deserve, because, finding no place in the histories of literature, nor in bibliographies, nor in the catalogues of booksellers, nor in the libraries of bookbuyers, nor in schools of learning, they have not been regarded as serious contributions to knowledge. Furthermore this type of books bears the brand of commercialism, and this brand marks a thing to condemn it in the realm of the elegant. But the commercialism of manufacturers' catalogues, of so-called *trade* literature, is only more frank and obvious than a similar spirit, less unashamed, that enters into the writing, making and selling of all books. The frank avowal of purpose in trade literature guards against deception, and the information offered is often unique and, not infrequently, of exceptional value. Considered from the mechanical side of book-making—paper, print, and binding—trade catalogues deserve to associate with books as libraries know books, and from the point of view of exclusive information many of them belong in just such a storehouse of knowledge as a library professes to be.

In a library emphasizing technical literature, such trade publications become indispensable, conveying as they do that intimate instruction that brings a machine or other product and its user into familiar acquaintance. It is true that many of them are merely descriptive price lists of goods of an individual manufacturer or of various makers, but even as such they are of the same interest to the industrial community as bibliographies and book catalogues are to bookbuyers and literary men. But often books and pamphlets are issued by manufacturing concerns designed to tell in detail how things are made by the maker, and should be used by the consumer, in order that greatest efficiency may result. And so I take this opportunity to pay a tribute to the trade catalogue and bespeak for it your kindly consideration. They may be had free of cost, and as desirable books are welcome as gifts to a library, there is considerable danger of over-indulgence in free literature with the risk of much embarrassment. Only a carefully chosen selection of such matter can be recommended even for a specialist's library, while for the usual town library only a few of the best need be considered at all.

The acquisition and up-keep of trade catalogues involves a number of considerations which it would not pay to enter upon here. Any librarian dealing with the problem will be happy to discuss details with any interested inquirer. I shall be pleased to answer any questions that may be raised upon this point.

There is the unlimited variety of technical and trade periodicals to be considered. Current information on the progress of things in every industrial field comes only by way of the trade papers. The best of the engineering journals, and

the chief organs of the trades represented in the community can be selected with little difficulty. The preserving of files of these journals and the binding of the most important is a real responsibility. But technical reference work emphatically requires periodical searching just as general reference work does, and the Engineering Index and the Technical Press Index, not to mention those other more exhaustive helps of the kind, are constantly thumbed for the benefit of investigators. The Engineering Index in its two volumes of five-yearly cumulations, 1896-1900 and 1901-1905, which are extremely convenient to use, and its annual volumes since then, which are unhappily very awkward to manage, is indispensable. The excessive cost of the five-yearly volumes discouraged the publishers to the extent of abandoning cumulative indexes beyond single years, but it is to be devoutly hoped that some means may be devised, when the 1910 volume is done, to bring the last five years together into a single alphabet as before. The more ambitious indexes, like The Technical Index, published in London, can apply only to very advanced technical work out of the range of all but the larger public libraries.

LECTURES.

To discuss the administration of a library's technical department, or the general handling of useful arts literature in ordinary processes, does not require great elaboration. In the smaller towns in which the public library stands as an educational centre, and where other methods of interesting the studiously-inclined workmen do not prevail, it is wholly possible and profitable to establish a series of talks in the assembly room with which every modern library building ought to be provided—these talks to be given by practical men or teachers in the local or neighboring schools. Then the men who attend are precisely in the right attitude to be reached at once by reading lists, recommended texts, outlines of study, with the library's resources to meet their requirements.

In Binghamton, N.Y., the enterprising librarian, Mr. Wm. F. Seward, has this month begun a remarkable series of such lectures to attract practical men toward technical books.

In the great cities in which efforts abound in trade schools, Y.M.C.A. courses, Department of Education lecture courses, lectures at men's lodges and trade societies, the library does better to preserve its true function and supply freely and adequately the literature that will supplement the interest created and the study inspired at these other centres.

ADMINISTRATION.

In fact, the work is not essentially different from the administering of other reference departments on the one hand, nor from the proper dealing with any seriously minded borrowers on the other. There is required abundant *courage* in treating with an element that as yet do not understand the library, and an enthusiasm that gives expression to that courage; a broad *sympathy* that enlists the confidence of the diffident; and a relation of *good fellowship* free from suspicion of condescension that manifests that sympathy to those who crave it, but don't expect it. Much remains to be done to convince this class of men that books can be tools, that literature is related to the shop, that studying books can help in the learning of machinery. Even engineers in the higher professional grades often affect to deprecate book knowledge. Very significant is the legend on the book-plate of the Library of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers—

"Books must follow science, not science books,"

a sort of registered protest pasted in the front of every volume the Society possesses, lest anyone should be misled into suspecting that electrical engineers are dependent upon books for scientific authority.

The dangerous tendency to erect an art palace, admit books thereto, and call it a free public library, because the people are allowed to enter it under careful surveillance and reverently approach some of the books cherished in it, does not encourage the man in the flannel shirt to regard the public library as an adjunct to his workshop. Statuary and mural paintings, vaulted halls, and marble stairways, while sufficiently beautiful and educational as art displays, unquestionably frighten away the working man whose mind is perplexed with a problem of his machine from which he has just turned with stained hands to a possible solution in books. The library building might be brought much nearer the people by an architectural simplicity that need make no sacrifice of beauty.

I have a young friend who, now a student, is still a locomotive engineer. He is a member in good standing of the Brotherhood. He has given me an invitation to join him in a ride upon an express engine when he may be driving again, that I may realize what locomotive running means. "The Erie Railroad has a fine library for its men in its Y.M.C.A. building," he said to me recently, "but I never went into it but once. I was afraid of making some mistake that would make me look foolish."

This man has been for two or three years engaged in special study in mechanical and other lines at Pratt Institute. Now he has disclosed a new purpose. It is to enter a school of library training as soon as he can possibly prepare for it, that he may qualify to become a worker among technical books with practical men. In him there will develop a new and unique type of librarian.

On motion of Mr. Steele, seconded by Rev. Mr. Bradley, hearty thanks were given to Mr. Stevens for his paper.

DR. HODGES, in response to a call from the Chair, outlined the meeting of the A.L.A. at Mackinac Island, June 30th to July 6th next. It had been planned that the last day should be "Canadian Day." He hoped that a Committee would be appointed in making this day a great success.

MR. BARNETT, of Stratford, who had made a special study of Technical Text Books, having worked his way up from the shop to be Mechanical Superintendent of the Grand Trunk Railway, had compared the Scranton text books with those of the Armour Institute of Chicago, and considered that the latter were quite up to the level of the former, though not so strong commercially in advertising their work.

Session closed at 10.15 p.m.

SECOND DAY—MORNING SESSION.

Tuesday, March 29th, 1910.

PRESIDENT HARDY introduced Miss Dunham as one whose papers read elsewhere had given him great pleasure. He was satisfied her paper this morning would contribute great advantage and pleasure to the members.

MISS B. MABEL DUNHAM, B.A., Berlin, read her paper as follows:—

METHODS OF REACHING THE PEOPLE.

There are days when the fates seem to have cast an unhallowed spell over a library. An expensive book mysteriously disappears from the shelves, the ledger will not balance, an important creditor sends in a much-scored account, and the bookbinder makes a blunder or two. As an attendant, or possibly a consequent evil, on such an occasion, the librarian is usually to be found suffering from a headache, or bothered with chilblains or a mild form of the "blues" and haunted with the suspicion that she has missed her calling in life and should have been—well, anything but a librarian.

It was on such a day last winter that I sat in my office and gave myself up to a somewhat morbid meditation. I recalled to mind the long procession of people who were wont to pass the library every day as they went to and fro about their business; children with their school-bags, mechanics with their dinner-pails, professional men with their proverbial black bag, society belles with their poodle dogs and a large number of nondescript pedestrians with nothing at all. Yet how few of them I had ever seen inside the building! Nor was I comforted when I thought of my morning's experience with some who had come in and gone out disappointed; the young lady who had left a long list of recent fiction, as deficient in quality as it was efficient in quantity, and expressed the wish that the order be placed immediately; the old gentleman in clerical garb who expected to find the library's collection of theological works more exhaustive than his own, and the little girl who wanted a book for her big brother "with not much adventure and not much love, but with a little more love than adventure."

It is evident, I told myself, that many people have many minds concerning the function of a library. Some people regard it as a place where attendant fairies in human form divine the ill-expressed thoughts of unknown minds and suit a book to every changing mood of an unseen individual; some think of it as a sort of museum where they may consult books too expensive and of too little use to warrant private possession; others consider it a sort of repository for books too questionable in character for any but a public collection of literature, while the majority of people seem to look upon it as a study in architecture, or a mere item in the long list of municipal charities and an excuse for civic boasting.

A VISITOR.

I know not to what depths of despondency I might have fallen had I been left to myself, but there came over me at this point a strange consciousness that I was not alone. I looked around and saw an old gentleman with a long white beard standing near the door. At first glance I marked him as a foreigner and I do not recall that I experienced any surprise when on his card I read these words:

Mr. Weissnichtwer, Utopia.

"You are welcome," I said, feeling instinctively that my visitor was of the fraternal order whose motive is the dissemination of good literature among those who know it not. "It is not every day we have the pleasure of meeting a man from Utopia."

"No," replied the old man, stroking his beard affectionately and laughing good-naturedly. "I find that there are comparatively few Canadians who ever heard of my native land. Indeed, if the truth must be told, the Utopians appear equally indifferent to Canada. At no little personal sacrifice, I have broken

away from the traditions of my fathers and set out to visit the libraries of the world. My only hope of recognition on my return to Utopia lies in my store of new ideas and improvements in library economy."

My heart swelled with pride as I thought of the new charging system recently installed, the increasing efficiency of the reference department and a novel arrangement of the books in the stack-room that seems to suit the requirements of the public. But the old man showed no desire to be victimized, sank into the nearest chair and sadly shook his head.

"I'd rather not, if you don't mind. Let's sit here and talk."

I was too proud to show my disappointment, so, with what grace I could summon at such short notice, and under such untoward circumstances, I consented to the arrangement on condition that my visitor should give me some idea of the public library in Utopia and his impression of Canadian libraries. The old gentleman needed no second invitation and he spoke our tongue with such ease and fluency and used the niceties of our language with such precision that I had no desire to interrupt him, nor would my astonishment have allowed me to do so if I had wished.

"In the first place," he began, "I must ask you not to allow your estimate of our people to be colored by Sir Thomas More's description of our land and of Utopian customs. His was, at best, a second-hand portrayal long since dimmed by the ravages of passing centuries. The modern Utopia is almost as cosmopolitan as it was once unique, for on every hand there may be seen evidences of the influence of every shipwrecked foreigner cast upon our shores during the centuries.

"No influence that the stranger has exerted upon our people has been more subtle than that of his literature, for literature is, to the Utopians, more than language. Books of other lands are a mine of novel ideas and unsuspected conditions which they lose no time in exploring and adapting to their own use.

"Yet I would not have you think that our people have lost their individuality. We are still Utopians. Through our veins courses the blue blood of our patrician fathers and in our daily life there live many survivals of the time-honored customs of our race. We have but culled the best from all nations and cherished what seemed more worthy in our own. If I hold Utopia superior to every other nation, I take refuge from your reproaches in these words of an immortal poet:

"That man is the best cosmopolite
Who loves his native country best."

THE PUBLIC LIBRARY IN UTOPIA.

"The public library is one of the institutions of older Utopia that have come down to the present day, untouched by the moving finger of foreign precept. It is true that other nations share with us to a greater or less degree many of our ideas of library economy, but as character is shown in the eccentricities of the individual man, so the reputation of our public library system must stand or fall upon the merits of the contrasts which distinguish it from similar institutions in other lands. If I hold up the Utopian library as an example to Canadians, it is because I believe that neither Canada nor any other nation can solve the problem of the public library without learning some lessons which the Utopians seem most competent to teach.

"In our land the public library is held in as high esteem in the popular opinion as are the public schools, high schools, collegiate institutes, technical schools and universities in Canada. To Utopian minds, the library is but another type

of school where each student choses his own curriculum and his own time to pursue it, where truant officers and every form of coercion are unknown and where all the population who desire to preserve their own self-respect and the esteem of their neighbors may have the privilege of registering without fear of ridicule on account of age or unusual stupidity. The Government guards most zealously the interests of this public institution, provides enough inspectors to ensure a thorough inspection at least twice a year and withdraws the charter from any town or city that fails to maintain the required standard of excellence.

"It is a compensation of Providence that grants special privileges of the rights of attraction to such creatures whose usefulness depends upon the favor of others. Botanists claim that the color of the flower is a bait for the bee, poets say that the gurgling and sparkling of the waters serve as a charm for the thirsty stag, and misogynists declare that the frills and furbelows of a woman's dress are in disguise the meshes of her net.

"The public library is one of these unfortunate creatures of circumstance with no law but the gentle rule of moral suasion and no power but what she herself creates. I have come to believe in the old adage that human nature is much the same the wide world over, but, in her helplessness the Canadian library instinctively trusts to architectural grandeur, to improved methods of classification and charging systems, to its books, and lastly, to the librarian and the board of management, whereas the Utopian library puts her confidence in the same means of attraction though in exactly the reverse order.

THE BOARD.

"The Public Library Board in Utopia is an aggregation of the most worthy men of the town and an election to its membership is held the summit of municipal honors. Of each candidate is required universal respect, an appreciation of the best literature and a knowledge of the problems of a large library by reason of personal experience with his own. When once elected, he holds his office for life under good behavior, unless charged with incompetency by the inspector. In the hands of these men rests the success or failure of the enterprise, for with them lies the responsibility of appointing the staff.

THE LIBRARIAN.

"The Utopians regard the choice of the librarian a matter of paramount importance. A good librarian is considered more essential to the civic welfare than a large and well-equipped library, just as Canadians esteem the qualities of a mechanic above those of his tools. The Utopian librarian is not a mere automatic book exchanger or a 'dead grammatical cinder,' but a living educational factor in the community. He must be as truly called to his work as your preachers for the ministry, your missionaries for China and your teachers for service among the young.

"The library is a school, the librarian is a director, the people are the students. It is required that one who undertakes to guide a community through the realms of literature should reach a standard of perfection somewhat in advance of that enjoyed by those whom he essays to lead, for Utopians are sufficiently religious to take warning from the Biblical injunction: 'Can the blind lead the blind? Shall they not both fall into the ditch?'

"The certified educational qualifications of a librarian in Utopia are so much superior to those demanded in Canada that I must forbear to mention them, lest you should doubt my word. This much I will say, that, if Canadian librarians

cannot be expected to be sufficiently well acquainted with the important books of all ages and with the history of the literature of all nations in order to advise the Board of Management in the matter of book selection, they should at least be required to know well the books they find upon the shelves in their own libraries and the history of the literature of their own 'country.

"It is equally essential that the librarian should study the people with whom he has to do. He must be a good judge of character; must be quick to estimate mental capacity, the religious bias, the political leanings, the literary prejudices of his readers, and must learn, by social intercourse with them, the ins and outs of their domestic life.

"Then, with a knowledge of books and readers alike, he must possess sufficient tact to bring the right readers to the right books. He must be resourceful, hopeful, enterprising, enthusiastic, prejudiced against none, partial to all. Add to these virtues good executive ability, a dogged attention to details, the saving grace of humor, a winning personality and a ready wit, and the probabilities are that the librarian will be a success. It is not everyone who is born to be a librarian even in Utopia.

SELECTION OF READING MATTER.

"Next in importance to the librarian and his assistants, the Utopians regard the selection of books and magazines. The best Canadian libraries use American publications almost exclusively—The United States Catalogue of Books, the Book Review Digest, The American Library Association Catalogue, The Readers' Guide to Periodical Literature, and Poole's Index—but I have since learned that the scarcity of similar Canadian publications excuses this seeming lack of patriotism. But the excuse does not affect the result. Canadians are buying American books and American magazines in spite of the high postal rates. Little tots are delighted with pictures representing 'our flag,' with highly-colored stars and stripes, and their elders smile indulgently as they read of the 'Sleepy Hollow Villages of Western Ontario.' Good Queen Victoria has been maligned at the hands of the American magazines, but still the loyal subjects of her royal son must continue to tolerate what they cannot remedy and look forward expectantly to a time when Canadian libraries shall no longer be at the mercy of the Yankee. Then, and not till then, can Canadian literature come to its own in its native land.

"With equally disastrous results the smaller libraries which, by reason of their poverty, escape the clutches of the American eagle too often assign the sacred duty of book selection to the ever-ready publisher and to random suggestions offered by the people. Too late, it is discovered that one of the books is duplicated when the first copy is asked for on an average of once a year; another copy is condemned on a charge of falsity and is worse than useless, and a third is pronounced immoral and ultimately finds its way to the Mephistopheles shelf.

"In Utopia such misfortunes are unknown. In every library may be found a catalogue of books suited to an Utopian library of its size and compiled by a competent bibliographer. It contains also descriptive and critical annotations and suggested classification. In every reference room is found an index to the most worthy Utopian magazines.

LIBRARY METHODS.

"In regard to methods, I am delighted that Canadian libraries are making rapid strides toward the goal of perfection as far as the mechanical phase of library work is concerned, but I should advise the librarian to teach the patrons of the

library something of the significance of the methods employed. The reader feels at home in a library if he understands something of the basis of classification used, the mysteries of the card catalogue, the plan of book arrangement on the shelves and the charging system at the exchange wicket. A little time spent in teaching the people the proper use of the library means a great saving of time for the librarian.

"The open access problem is a live question in Canada. Objections are being raised to the system on account of the misplacing and occasionally the disappearance of books, and the readers, still unaccustomed to the privilege of handling books before making their selection and ignorant of the need of precision in the arrangement of books on the shelves of a well-conducted library, not infrequently leave the stack-room in such a state that it suggests a cyclone. But when the people have been duly trained to use vacant shelves for what books they handle and cannot with certainty replace on the shelves, it will not be long before open access will become as popular in Canada as it is in Utopia.

"Canadians have reason to be proud of the stately buildings which house their libraries, but, after all, men and women, boys and girls, whether Canadians or Utopians, are attracted not so much by the envelope as by the letter, not so much by the pie crust as by the filling, not so much by bricks and mortar as by personality. In library mathematics the building is the constant and the librarian the variable quantity. If the librarian be a cipher he can add nothing to the value of the building, but if he be a digit he holds the key to the situation and any number of ciphers at his back only multiplies his power tenfold.

CHILDREN'S WORK.

"The Utopian librarian begins his work among the children of the community. It has long been our custom to divide the day into three parts, giving equal time to work, sleep and recreation. It is the duty of the librarian to teach the children to devote a portion of their recreation hours to the reading of wholesome literature and so carefully are they directed in their early acquaintance with books, that, by the time they have reached their seventeenth or eighteenth year, they may safely be left to make their own literary friendships.

"The public school teacher and the librarian in Utopia are strong allies, for they recognize that the work of each supplements that of the other. The librarian is invited to visit the children in the schoolroom from time to time and the teacher is a familiar figure in the library. The zeal for reading among public school scholars, or the lack of it, is largely due to the influence of the foster-parents of childhood. It makes all the difference in the world to the librarian whether the reading of good literature is used as an incentive to good work and indulged in as a Friday afternoon diversion, or whether it furnished lines as a punishment for misdemeanor and is perhaps frankly regarded by the zealous teacher as a sheer waste of time.

"In one of our smaller towns the librarian organized a reading circle for teachers and a few others of the literary aristocracy. Once a week they met and devoted their energies to the study of Utopian literature in a sort of cursory way at the rate of one author an evening. A complete bibliography of the material the library afforded on each individual author and his literary productions was compiled by the librarian and kept at the library for reference at any time. Famous Utopian authors were occasionally invited to give lectures and recitals of their works, but, at such times, the doors were generously thrown open wide to the public. At the close of the course, the librarian, acting on the suggestion of differ-

ent members of the Club, submitted an examination on the work covered by the course, and next season the class was reorganized with an augmented membership. The teachers almost without exception carried their enthusiasm for Utopian literature to the class-room and the children passed it on to their parents. There broke out in that town a great literary revival and the library enjoyed a popularity never experienced before.

"Many librarians in Utopia visit the schools once or twice a year and personally invite the boys and girls to use the library. An invitation, in the eyes of a child, is not a thing to be lightly regarded and it is often necessary to provide an extra assistant for the four o'clock rush. When the enthusiasm begins to wane, it may be renewed by a written invitation sent in care of the teacher. Often lists of supplementary reading prepared by the librarian in collaboration with the teachers and suited to the age and ability of the scholars, are enclosed. These are hung in a conspicuous place in the schoolroom and are full of suggestions to juvenile readers.

"One librarian whom I knew used a novel scheme to encourage the reading of biography among the older children of the public schools. On four successive Mondays, there was pinned on the bulletin board of the library a good picture of a poet with a quotation from his poems. A prize was offered to the one who could discover the identity of the men, place the quotations and write the best short biographical sketch of each poet. Excitement ran high, parents and teachers alike became interested and the circulation of biography for the year was materially increased.

"Another librarian became an adept at keeping the path well beaten between the school and the library by a wise use of the pictures in the juvenile room. All kinds of attractive illustrations were clipped from old magazines or donated by the children themselves. These were hung up daily to excite the interest and admiration of the children and useful suggestions to aid in the selection of books or timely hints on library etiquette were used to add a touch of variety.

"When the children have graduated from the public school into the Collegiate Institute, the librarian is in a position to give the English master valuable assistance in preparing his lists of books for supplementary reading. The librarian is always duly notified of the requirements in essay, debate and oratorical work before the subjects are assigned to the class, so that he is able to save time and confusion by looking up all his references and placing all necessary books in the reference room, before the arrival of the students.

"There is in Utopia no fixed line of demarcation between adults and juveniles and in libraries where a separate juvenile department is found, there is no fixed age at which transition must be made to the adult department. Children are men and women in the making, and men and women are but children of a larger growth. If a child has learned in his youth an appreciation of good literature, he may generally be trusted to make his own selection of books when he has attained to the stature of a man. However, even in Utopia, there are unfortunate ones to whom the fates have denied an efficient early training, intellectual dwarfs of all sizes and of all ages, and young men and women who have not learned to distinguish liberty from license. With such readers the librarian must continue his work long after the very name of the teacher is forgotten and the influence of the school is felt no more.

"The majority of young people in Utopia, as in Canada, find their way into the factories or stores where the busy routine of industry and the noisy hum of bartering present a striking contrast to the silence of the school and the approved

whisperings of the library. The proprietors, anxious for the welfare of the employees, and at the same time keenly alive to their own interests, welcome the kind thought of the librarian in sending lists of books to the factory or store and are only too glad to encourage the reading of books which tend to higher citizenship and better service.

READING LISTS.

"The Utopians have become an intensely religious people and their religious organizations are legion. The wise librarian prepares lists of books to suit the needs of each organization, books on missions for the mission circle, books on music for the choir and books on teaching for the Sunday-school teacher. Many books of general literature may be added to each list. Attractive posters are prepared for the Y.W.C.A. and for the Y.M.C.A., giving the names of the favorite books of some queenly woman or of some international hero.

"The chief stimulus to intellectual culture in a parent often comes from some brainy-topped son or daughter in whose eyes the fond parent hopes to maintain his wonted reputation for literary supremacy. He soon becomes antiquated in literature who does not strive to keep pace with the new discoveries, the new theories, the new beliefs and the new books of the day. For such people, the librarian prepares lists of books dealing with live questions, such as essays on female suffrage, pictures of Halley's comet, magazine articles on British politics and criticisms of English orthography. These lists mean quicker service and less worry.

"These methods of reaching different classes of adult readers are trivial compared to the influence the librarian may exert through the daily press. Just as children trust implicitly to the guidance of the teacher, so parents pin their faith to the newspaper, which champions the cause of the father's chosen political party. Once a week, the Utopian librarian edits a column in the papers bringing to the attention of the whole community some noteworthy books or some interesting literary news. This is not done to a great extent in Canada, but I am inclined in this case, to lay the fault at the door of the unbusiness-like librarian rather than to the charge of the much-abused pen-pusher. The librarian has not made the best of his opportunities until he has enlisted the sympathy of the teachers to win the children and the aid of the editors to persuade their elders.

"It is one thing to get new readers, but the keeping of them is another problem. Moreover, on the principle that it is easier to induce a person to taste his first olive than his second, a strong effort should be made to please all visitors on the first visit.

"I find that the dissatisfaction among Canadian public library readers is due to one of three reasons, two of which are: The reader either asks for something he should not ask for, or wants something the library should have and has not. In the first case the bald truth should be more or less tactfully stated, and, in the second, a note should be made of the deficiency and, in time, the name of the books should be placed on the order list—the sooner the better for the reputation of the library. In the matter of the choice of books, the librarian should be prepared to expect some criticism. Opinions differ. Besides, if the librarian has a proper estimate of his mission in life, he will choose for his readers books whose standard is somewhat in advance of those they would naturally choose for themselves. Most people are so constituted that in the intellectual, as well as in every other phase of life, they prefer the easy to the difficult, but the librarian believes with Browning:

"A man's reach should exceed his grasp,
Or what's a heaven for?"

"The third reason for dissatisfaction among library patrons is a universal proneness to forget that every reader on the library roll must share equally with all others the rights of borrowing books. A system of request cards would break up the restricted circulation of popular books among members of a clique and free the librarian from any suspicion of partiality. In Utopia the circulation of popular books, whether old or new, is doubled by duplicate copies or by a time limit of seven, instead of the customary fourteen days, with no privilege of renewal.

FICTION.

"I was surprised to find that, in Canada, the most popular books are works of fiction. In Utopia a slave to the fiction habit is regarded in much the same light as Canadians hold inebriates, with a feeling of profoundest sympathy mingled with disgust. However, a few of the best brands of fiction are kept on the shelves for medicinal purposes and it is required of all dispensors that they shall not themselves be literary dipsomaniacs.

REFERENCE WORK.

"The chief value of the Utopian library, on the contrary, lies in the efficiency of the reference department. The average Canadian librarian is as ignorant of the possibilities of this department as the people on the street. In reference work the essentials are an intelligent, tactful and resourceful librarian who can devote to this work as much time as the occasion demands, a few encyclopedias and general reference books, a magazine index and as many indexed magazines as he can command. With a firm belief in the unwritten law of nature that a man bestows most affection upon the object of his greatest sacrifices, the Utopian librarian does not hesitate to solicit contributions of magazines from the people, and, not infrequently, it comes about that the woman who donates a generous-sized bundle at the time of the spring house-cleaning, evinces an interest in the library second only to that of the bibliomaniac who, almost grudgingly, surrenders his precious treasures to the public weal.

MISTAKES.

"There is one fault of a librarian or his staff that must always be at war with the combined perfections of the institution. Board, staff, books, methods and building may be ideal, but if mistakes are repeatedly and continuously made, the glamor is gone. Mistakes irritate. No one cares to be given the wrong book, or to have his book charged on the card of his neighbor, or to be the recipient of an undeserved overdue notice. Indeed, so necessary do the Utopians deem the utmost precaution in these seemingly trivial matters, that the penalty for carelessness and inattention to details is an unceremonious discharge from office."

I could scarcely have forgiven the old man's arrogance if his odious comparisons had continued much longer, but, like the wise man of the parable, he had kept the good wine until the last.

"You will be surprised to hear me say that, in spite of all my fault-findings and claims to Utopian superiority, I intend to remain in Canada. I could not return to Utopia if I would, nor would I leave Canada if I could. The Utopian looks with pardonable pride on a literature that is past, on a glory that has been, but the Canadian looks forward with hope to a reputation of the future, to a literary prowess that is still to be. Youngest among the daughters of the New World is fair Canada. Beautiful she is beyond compare and wealthy beyond computation, the latest debutante among the nations, a fair young virgin whom the Muses are only

beginning to woo. She stands but on the threshold of her life in all the glory and buoyancy of her youth. It was unkind of me to compare her libraries with those of old Utopia that had reaped the benefit of years of experience before Canada had sprung into being. It was thoughtless of me to criticize her library boards, her librarians, her books, her library methods and even to speak disparagingly of her beautiful buildings, when she is handicapped by inexperience and hampered by the limitations of money, that curse of the un-Utopian world."

"Curse! Give us more of the curse!" I was about to exclaim, but I was prevented by a little girl who stood at the door and piped out in a thin, treble voice, contrasting strangely with the sonorous tones of the old man before me, "Please would you be so kind as to tell me if you have any Elsie books?"

The interruption was brief. We had none. I turned again to my visitor, but the chair was empty and the old man was gone.

No trace of my visitor could be found in the building. Even his card had mysteriously disappeared.

My friends would have me believe that Mr. Weissnichtwer was a creature of my fancy, but I shall always maintain that he was surely a heavenly visitant, sent to me when most I needed him, with a message of inspiration and a challenge to take up with renewed vigor the work of a noble profession in a land rich with promise.

PRESIDENT HARDY said he had not at any meetings in recent years enjoyed a paper quite so much as the one just read. It was full of wise suggestions, beautiful phrases—in fact a literary product in itself—and most beneficial for us all to hear. Referring to the pictures, he spoke of the magnificent collection which had been shown the Committee by Mr. Dana in Newark, N.J., consisting of about 100,000. On the occasion of Lincoln's birthday the schools made heavy demands on the library for all the pictures of Lincoln and these had been used by the teachers with great benefit in impressing the lessons of that great man's life.

MR. KERR had enjoyed the paper, but said it was rather discouraging in its effect, as we were all so far from Utopia. He asked where such a librarian as the one represented in the paper could be found.

REV. MR. BRADLEY : In Berlin. (Great laughter.)

MR. KERR feared that if we spent our money in thoroughly preparing librarians and paying them we would have none left for books. He thought the want of money was the root of all evil. (Laughter.) But we could always aim towards Utopia though we might never reach it; it is a pretty high altitude if we cannot point our little guns to it—(laughter)—and bring down something worth while for our libraries. (Applause.)

MR. FLETCHER said in his town it was difficult to enlist the interest of the school children in the public library as they had their own school library.

MR. GRANT, as one connected with both public library and school, had not found that difficulty. In the school library they had 1,500 volumes. When the school work, or debates or essays called for research, in nineteen cases out of twenty the pupils went straight to the public library; and in Sarnia they took one hundred books from the public library for every one they took from the school.

SECRETARY HARDY said the intention of the school libraries was to provide simply a sort of nucleus to encourage the children to read and give them a few reference books. He could not see how it would work against the public library because the grant to the school libraries was less than \$20. He thought the school and public library should work in harmony by buying different books so as to supplement and not hurt each other.

DR. DALES said in Stouffville the public school board had one or two representatives on the Library Board, and they frequently gave a list of works to be taken up in the continuation classes and also some reading for the reference work, and the Library Board purchased for them a dozen of each kind of books to place in the hands of the teachers, and after they were through with them the books were handed back to the library. In that way competition was prevented. A scheme by which the various school sections would be adjuncts to the libraries in the small towns would be a source of great strength to those libraries. Greatest attention should be given to these small libraries.

MISS CARNOCHAN had found that the public library is called on much more than the school library. She had been frequently asked for help by pupils of the High School in subjects for composition. She thought there was no trouble in the way of competition between them.

DR. CHARTERIS moved that Miss Durham's paper be distributed to the patrons of the library in large quantities, and thought it would form very interesting and profitable reading.

DR. VOADEN seconded the motion.

The motion was carried and the opinion expressed that it should be done by the Department, and it was suggested that her paper read at London be incorporated also.

THE PRESIDENT announced that Dr. Locke had offered a room in the Toronto Public Library for the meeting of the Association next year.

REV. MR. BRADLEY moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Locke in this connection.

MR. NUTTING seconded the motion, which was carried.

MR. MUNRO moved that the Association request the Government to so amend the Library Act that in townships where there are schools or free public libraries the Council give them \$25 a year rated on the public property of the township, and that this be supplemented by the Government to whatever extent they see necessary.

MR. DALES seconded the motion.

MR. KERR thought \$25 was too moderate in view of the prosperity of the farmers and suggested \$50. He thought in Ontario any township could afford \$100 for the school and keeping up of a public library in a township.

MR. GURD did not think it wise to ask amendments just now to the Library Act. He thought the Institutes should discuss the question during the year so that a comprehensive scheme can be formulated.

REV. MR. MOYER said in his village a by-law had been passed, but the last state of the library was worse than the first, as the membership fees had been lost and the one-half mill did not supply the needed money.

MR. DENHOLME suggested that the County Council should give an equivalent to the Government grant. Libraries fairly established and going should receive \$150 from the Government, and a similar sum from the County Council would put them in good position. That is the plan on which the high schools and continuation classes have been aided in years gone by, so we have a precedent.

After further discussion it was decided that Mr. Munro's motion stand in the form of a notice of motion.

MR. GOULD, of Montreal, in response to the President, announced that his summer school would be carried on in Montreal for five weeks, running from the 20th June to 18th July. He announced that he had an offer of \$19 a month for good board and lodgings for students.

MR. GRANT moved that the Municipal Act be amended so that if industries are exempted from taxation such exemption shall not include the tax for public

libraries. He thought that whatever argument applied to the school should apply with equal force to the public libraries.

REV. MR. BRADLEY seconded the motion.

On the suggestion of the President this motion was set as a notice of motion.

THE PRESIDENT suggested the appointment of a legal committee to thresh out these matters, and suggested such members as Messrs. Gurd, Murton and several other gentlemen. We ought to have a thoroughly thought-out and measured scheme and the amendments all drawn up so that we can present them to the Minister and be able to stand fire from every quarter. (Hear, hear.)

REV. MR. BRADLEY thought the Library Institute programmes should be so arranged that they would discuss resolutions on this line.

THE PRESIDENT thought this a very good suggestion, adding that the Institutes develop a large number of valuable suggestions.

DR. OTTO KLOTZ' paper was read in his absence by Secretary Hardy.

THE TRUSTEE'S DUTY TO THE LIBRARY.

In discussing the subject—the Trustee's Duty to the Library—we must at the outset assume that when a man accepts the appointment, for with our statute governing Public Libraries it is always an appointment and not an election as obtains for school trustees and for members of the Municipal Council, he accepts therewith the duties and responsibilities of such position.

He who simply assumes them, and treats them with indifference is a source of weakness to the Board. His appointment is a mistake. There is no room on a Library Board for a man who accepts the appointment "just for the honor of it." The Board requires no ornament or dead timber, but instead men who take an interest, and a live interest, in the Library and who will undertake to find out their duties and responsibilities, of which we shall presently speak, and carry them out.

To clarify one's mind—the question may well be asked—what is the trustee's duty to the Library? Before answering this we may first define the word Library as here understood. We shall define it in its widest term, and divide it into three parts: The public which uses, or should use, the Library; the Library proper; the collection of books, periodicals and current literature; and the Library staff, particularly the Librarian.

THE PUBLIC.

The first sub-division—the public—is the most important one, and presents many phases for consideration. The trustee must be seized of the fundamental idea and principle that the Public Library is the People's University, that it is the fountain to which all have access, whose wholesome water shall give renewed life and intellectual strength.

Being convinced of its educational potentialities, of its influence for better artisans and mechanics, for brighter homes, for better men and women, and last but not least of the directive influence on boys and girls, the citizens of to-morrow; being convinced of these dormant powers of a library, his first duty is to see that the Library receives adequate municipal support. This is seldom an easy matter. It generally requires a good deal of missionary work, through the local newspapers, through personal appeal to councillors, through public addresses before

the council or otherwise. The public must be told of its need, which it frequently does not recognize. The public is so easily alarmed by the cry of "taxes," forgetting that money wisely spent is true economy. With the phase with which we are at the moment dealing the trustee must exercise the influence of an educator; the general public does not know what it wants, it must be educated up to that, and then want it. Then the Library may get its due, and in course of time repay to the public manifold times, although in other ways, the money raised in its behalf.

The work of the trustee is often discouraging and disheartening, and may take years to attain a particular end. Our Public Libraries' Act favors the carrying out of any definite plan, because an appointee holds office for several years, giving him an opportunity of thoroughly familiarizing himself with the whole range of Library affairs to the great advantage of the best interests of the public and of the Library. A further advantage of this tenure of office is that it permits of what is in athletics called "team work." We know how effective it is in this latter respect, and so it is too with a Library Board. I have reason to refer to this, because all libraries in Ontario are not so constituted that "team work" can be efficiently carried out. I allude to libraries whose Board has no fixed continuity. With a continuity to the Board definite plans may be formulated that one knows in advance will take years to carry out, but if there is no continuity to the Board, each new Board will have its own notion, using the term notion advisedly, in contradistinction to a matured plan, for it is not to be expected that new men, thrown into new surroundings, faced by problems wholly or nearly wholly foreign to them, can act with that intelligence, with that large-mindedness essential to the best interests of the community. The fault lies not with the men, but with the system. Let us, suppose, then, that the trustee or the team work of the Board has succeeded in obtaining somewhat adequate financial support from the municipality—wholly adequate support is perhaps unattainable. The next question is how shall the money be most wisely and most profitably expended? The expenditure may be divided into salary or salaries for staff; into purchase of books and periodicals; and into maintenance, which exclude the preceding and include such items as fire, light and incidentals.

One of the first considerations and a point ever to be kept in view is the public. The trustee should know his public well, just as a physician can only treat his patient intelligently after having made a thorough diagnosis. The people of one town may differ from those of another town; their industries and interests may be different, so that a successful course adopted by a Board in one place may not meet with the same success in another, and as the people, the citizens, are to be beneficiaries of a public library, it is all-important that their needs be closely studied. It must ever be the aim of the trustee to try to give the greatest good to the greatest number, without however neglecting to provide opportunities within reasonable limits commensurate with the funds available to the exceptional artisan, mechanic or bright young man who is anxious to pursue his work beyond the ordinary.

We must take people as they are, and not as they should be; on the other hand, however, the Library must be considered a means to an end, and that end tends towards the uplifting of the whole community on to a higher plane, directly by all those who use the Library, and indirectly by the influence they exert on the rest of the community. It can hence be truly said that even those who do not use the library are to a greater or less extent benefited by it through the environment of those who do use it. One of the duties then of the trustee is to know his clientele well, so that he can intelligently assist the librarian in providing the

desirable reading matter in books and periodicals for the people. His services in this respect are more important in a small library than in a large one where many thousand dollars are annually expended for books, and where hence the trustee can scarcely be expected to be familiar with such a wide range of literature as is necessary for intelligent selection. One of the functions of a library, and the one that generally appeals most to those that control the purse strings, is to increase the industrial productiveness of the people of the respective town or municipality. This is a point to which I have referred above. Take a town, for example, whose industries are almost wholly those of cabinetmaking. It should be the duty of a trustee to see that the library and reading room is especially rich and complete in all that pertains to cabinetmaking, to carpentering, the different kinds of wood, designing, drawing and everything that may further the artisan's skill and thereby his productiveness. For we must ever remember that the commercial success of a nation rests on the skill and productiveness of its artisans. To attain this success the trustee can, if he embraces the duties and responsibilities of his position, add his quota through the influence of the Public Library. This function of the Public Library is one that may be measured in dollars and cents, but the other function—of making better men and women, of character building, of brightening homes by the perusal of good literature, of wholesome fiction, of making better citizens, of appreciating the rights as well as the responsibilities of citizenship—these things can not be measured in coin, but they make for a nation's progress and stability. These considerations may perhaps appear ideal, but they are real, nevertheless, and the trustee should not lose sight of them and exert his influence that the Library pursues a course tending toward that end.

THE STAFF.

The next expenditure is that for salary or salaries for the staff. The most important office is, of course, the librarian, and the success of the library depends more upon him or her, for women have shown themselves eminently fitted for such position, than upon anyone else; for a poor Library Board and a good librarian are preferable to a good Board and poor librarian.

Hence it is a most important duty of the trustee to see that the services of a good librarian be obtained, not merely an automaton that hands out books and checks off those returned. The day of utilizing men and women whose usefulness in other fields has vanished is past, and such should be kept out of the library. What is wanted is a person who has enthusiasm for the work, who has studied library work and methods, who in an ostentatious and quiet way will be helpful to the readers; who can guide particularly the younger readers in their choice of literature; who can encourage the formation of reading clubs and societies; who can make the library and reading room, especially for small libraries, cheerful and attractive by little devices; and by his or her own attitude to the users of the library add much to its usefulness and influence for good. These qualifications for a librarian are by no means hypothetical, for I have found them in my extensive visits to libraries over this continent and elsewhere, and I must admit, and do so cheerfully, that the libraries I have in mind at the moment were mostly women. The duty of the trustee, then, in having found a good and suitable librarian, his next duty, and one not to be treated lightly, is to see that adequate remuneration be given for the services rendered. The good librarian is in love with his work and is quite willing to sacrifice something on that account to follow a chosen vocation. But that is no reason why inadequate remuneration should be accorded. Let the librarian feel that he is getting a fair reward for his services,

co-operate with him, assist him in his endeavors to improve the usefulness of the library, let him feel that he has the good-will of the Board, do not throw all the responsibility of the whole management and its aims upon his shoulders. Do not dampen his enthusiasm and zeal by indifference and simply perfunctory attendance at meetings, or absence altogether. The library requires the undivided attention of both librarian and trustees. Bear in mind that it is an educational institution of the town with a larger attendance than that of the school or schools. Having these things in mind, it will be seen that the duties and responsibilities of the trustee to the Library should not be lightly treated. Whatever the size of the library, even if it is one that is open only in the evening, it is the duty of the trustee to have as librarian some bright, intelligent person that will be an important factor in making the dormant material of the library into living tissue. Books are made to read, and an efficient and enthusiastic librarian will see to it that books are worn out by use and not by dust on shelves. And again, don't forget to pay the librarian decently, for the money invested will pay a better rate of interest than any stocks. It cannot too strongly be urged upon the trustees and Board that a mere collection of books does not constitute a Public Library, it requires the connecting link—the librarian—to bind those two words more closely together—the Public and the Library, and the more intimately will they be connected the more efficient the librarian is.

READING AND VISITS.

A trustee should make a point of becoming somewhat acquainted of what other libraries are doing, as found in reports and publications; he may at times get thereby new ideas or pointers that may be applicable in his own library. Again, if he has occasion to travel and has an hour or so to spare in a town or city where there is a Public Library, he should go there, "nose" about, and he will find that the visit is profitable. The writer does not wish to intimate that a trustee should lose much or any of his business time in attending to his duties to the Library. The main thing is to recognize that the trustee has duties and responsibilities and if he cheerfully accepts them, as he should, the busy man can always find odd moments when he can give attention to a matter that he knows is in the interests and for the benefit of his fellow-citizens. About the last part of the expenditure which I have called—maintenance—not much need be said, as it is more or less of a fixed annual charge—that of fire, light and incidentals. It may be observed, however, that the trustees should within their means make the library and room or rooms as cheerful and comfortable as possible. Let the rooms be well lighted and the light so distributed as to be restful to the eyes. Try and make the Library the most attractive place in town. That in itself is a standing temperance sermon, without being preached, which many people don't like.

Believe in the Library as an educational institution for all the people, young and old; believe in the Library as an aid for Technical Education; believe in the Library as a good thing for your town; and believe in the Library as making for a strong and progressive nation—Canada—believing such,

"The Trustee's Duty to the Library" will be clear.

The Secretary then conducted a

QUESTION DRAWER.

Q. What system do you recommend for disinfecting books that have been circulated in homes where there is tuberculosis?

DR. CHARTERIS: Refer to your Medical Health Officer. The best means of disinfection now is formaldehyde.

REV. MR. BRADLEY said the Berlin Library had an Inspector who looks after the disinfecting of houses, and he reports to the librarian, and when any books are returned from such houses they are burned. (Hear, hear.)

SECRETARY HARDY said that Dr. King, of St. Catharines, had made a special study of this subject and would be glad to give information on it.

Q. What libraries here represented get a money grant from the County Council? What is the amount to each library?

SECRETARY HARDY: I know that Kent and Victoria Counties give grants. Oxford has started to give grants, but just to eleven. Kent and Victoria give to every library. The grants in those three counties were all of the same amount to each library, except in one case of a country town.

MR. NUTTING: Ontario gives the same amount to all public libraries, \$25 a year and has done that for 15 years.

MR. DENHOLME: The Kent County grant is additional to the Government grant. It is \$25 for the library and \$25 additional for the reading-room.

SECRETARY HARDY, reporting for the Executive Committee, said they had agreed to endorse the resolutions from the Institutes as follows:—

Stratford.—2. "To amend the Department rules and conditions that the small struggling libraries who most need assistance may get more money help or grant than they can ordinarily qualify for under present rules."

Georgian.—1. "That this Library Institute views with regret the high annual rate of mortality amongst the smaller libraries (viz., above ten per cent. of the total number of libraries in the Province), although at the same time from \$7,000 to \$8,000 of the sum voted by the Legislature annually remains unexpended; it is therefore our opinion that a change in the system of making legislative grants is necessary, and that every library, however small, should receive a minimum annual grant of \$25 to aid in its maintenance."

2. "That having realized the impossibility of an adequate inspection of public libraries by only one official, we are of the opinion that assistants to the Inspector should be appointed by the Department of Education with the hope of rendering the smaller libraries more efficient help."

Other resolutions were referred to the incoming Executive for more thorough consideration.

PRESIDENT HARDY asked suggestions for the help of the library in Burford. A meeting had been fixed for next Friday night. The half mill on the assessment of \$150,000 would only produce \$75, and it was a question whether it was best to pass the by-law or depend on individual subscription.

MR. ROBERTSON thought the people of Burford should be impressed with the fact that their difficulty arose from lack of appreciation of library work. He thought our work would be ineffective until it was thoroughly investigated and the facts obtained through the Institute. The task requires patience and investigation, but there is surely some solution of the problem of small libraries.

REV. MR. BRADLEY told that at a meeting of the Belleville Institute a lady had suggested in one case that every man on the Board be asked to resign and that ladies be asked to run the library. He told of a library where the Board was composed entirely of ladies who made the work a success.

PRESIDENT HARDY thought the suggestion a very good one.

MR. CARSON thought it would be well to have a small Commission appointed

to visit Idaho and Wisconsin and Iowa where a good system in relation to small libraries is in successful operation.

MISS AHERN said that Wisconsin had a Library Commission, a body of citizens appointed by the Government to especially look after the small libraries, and they visited those communities and if possible to get a living library out of the community they do it. They make a depository station and the Commission sends out from 50 to 100 books like the travelling libraries in Canada. In small villages they send perhaps 1,000 volumes and open the library two or three times a week, and they stir up the leading citizens to help. If it is a question of lack of books they send down three or four hundred books for six months and this is a real addition to the community and serves to arouse interest in the town till they come to the time of putting in their own books. She did not believe any community could work with \$75, and if a central library was out of the question she advocated travelling libraries. A number of towns had extended the library privileges to the surrounding communities for a small fee. For instance, the library in Brantford would say to the Township trustees or County Commissioners, "If you will give us a certain amount we will extend the privilege of our library to your community to such an extent"—of course always caring for needs of the community who own the library. If a half dozen of those little towns surrounding a large one would pay a certain amount for library privilege they could call for help, and the attendant from that big library could go out and solve some knotty problems in a morning or evening. If the large libraries would call in the citizens surrounding, they would naturally become a business proposition. Let the large libraries furnish books just as clothing and other goods are furnished by those who make a specialty of that. The travelling library and the increase of interest in the communities must be a solution of the problem. (Applause.)

DR. DALES told that in Stouffville, where the library is free, the only cost to users is five cents for the card, one side of which is for fiction and the other for non-fiction. Persons outside the town pay fifty cents, which allows them two books per month. A fine of one cent per day is charged for overtime. These fines amount to a considerable sum. The surrounding country should be made a feeder to the central library, and every school and school section should be canvassed for subscriptions. These would serve the double purpose of sustaining the central library and develop the reading habit in the rising generation.

MISS AHERN thought the plan outlined was a good one, but it didn't reach the people who need it most, namely, those who are not reading, and who don't know that they ought to read—those people who ought to be thinking so as to keep their minds from becoming atrophied. If Burford paid a sum to Brantford for the use of its library they would feel interested and consider that they owned part of the institution.

MR. KERR thought a dollar a year fee to people in the surrounding country was perfectly fair, for such people didn't pay taxes for the library. If the township would give a grant to the library, it should be thrown open to all the people.

THE PRESIDENT thought the active libraries were not sufficiently represented on the Committee on Technical Education.

After some discussion on this point,

MR. GRANT moved, seconded by Mr. Hamilton, that the Committee on Technical Education have power to add to their numbers. Carried.

REV. MR. BRADLEY moved a vote of thanks to Dr. Klotz for his excellent paper. Seconded by Mr. Hamilton. Carried.

MR. CARSON moved that this Association send a delegation of three to the

American Library Association for the purpose of attending the Library Commission meeting and learning more about the problem of the small library. He believed this would bring more practical results than the study of the problem here for five years.

MR. MERTON heartily seconded the motion. Those who had been privileged to attend the present Convention had acquired information that otherwise would have taken them ten times as long to obtain. By sending experts to the American Convention we will get the benefit of the experience of experts for many years. We know by experience that the Americans are broad-minded enough not to care anything about International Boundary Lines in dealing with questions of this kind.

THE PRESIDENT presumed the Minister of Education would be asked to aid in sending the Commission to the American Library Association meeting, especially to learn how to deal with the small library problem; and on Mr. Carson suggesting that the names of the delegates be left to the Minister of Education, the motion was carried.

DR. HODGES said the American Association would be delighted to welcome delegates from this Association.

MR. GILMOUR asked how disorder could be avoided in libraries that used open stacks.

DR. HODGES said that readers were encouraged to leave books on the ledges, so that library attendants might replace the books. While the open-shelf system involves a certain amount of disorder, it has advantages far outweighing those objections. He had been on the staff of the Astor Library in New York, perhaps the most valuable reference library in the world, consisting of 400,000 volumes, not one of which was on an open shelf. The books were guarded by police officers and attendants and rules in every possible way; yet in spite of that care the books of that library appeared in the second-hand stores of New York oftener than did those of the open-shelf Cincinnati Library. (Laughter.) He didn't attempt to explain the mystery.

THE PRESIDENT suggested that it was just the "cussedness" of human nature. The people were bound they would have the books just because they were told they couldn't.

MR. WALKER told how the Niagara Falls Library put about 150 books on ordinary board shelves outside the stack-room, and they not only didn't lose books, but the people were taking interest in books such as they wouldn't ask for at the wicket. This plan gave the children an opportunity of getting accustomed to use the open shelves by the time the new library was completed.

MR. KERR suggested that a good way to start on the open shelf plan would be to begin with books on theology. (Laughter.) They had tried that plan, mixing in some other books with theology, and thus educated the people to the use of open shelves, and there hadn't been two books stolen from the time the library had been opened.

MR. WILLIAMS said they had had open shelves in Collingwood for four years, and hadn't lost one book, nor had a single complaint from the librarian that the books had been disarranged.

MISS AHERN said the open shelf had become so well established that the burden of proof was on the man who didn't want them. The disorder referred to by Mr. Gilmour was no doubt due to the listlessness of the people in handling the books, to people talking among the shelves, and to pulling down books in careless fashion. These are faults which a library must cure. It is a personal question

altogether. The confusion, the work of replacing books, and even the loss of a book occasionally, bear no comparison to the intellectual expansion which comes from the open shelves. The habit of properly handling books must be encouraged, like our parlor manners, by the little touch here and another there; by the little inspired word from the teachers, by ministers referring to it in the pulpit, by the continual sympathetic attitude on the part of the authorities to the people. It is not the gross abuse of property; it is simply that the people don't know—and they don't know that they don't know. They must be shown that the labor caused by carelessness on their part might be used in other ways to their advantage. She urged Canadians to attend the meeting of the A.L.A., and begged them not to consider it an "American" Association, but rather their own Association, which it really was. The Librarian of McGill University, Montreal, had been elected as President of the A.L.A. partly in order to emphasize the fact that that Association belonged to Canada. (Applause.)

MR. FLETCHER thought that visiting among the books wasn't a bad method of culture. (Hear, hear.) Even if some books were lost, the best way of educating people was by trusting them completely. (Applause.)

A DELEGATE. The open-shelf system was started at our library, and not a single complaint had been made as to the books being misplaced. We would not go back to the old system for anything.

MR. GOULD bore testimony to the broad scope of the A.L.A., of which he had been a member for many years. He had found that Canadians and United Statesers were all one there. A welcome would be extended to everyone who attended.

A DELEGATE asked for experience as to visitors of libraries cutting paragraphs out of books.

THE PRESIDENT said there were some vandals, and it was pretty hard to provide against them. Referring to the losses in the Astor Library, he told a story on the farmer who found the calves were refusing to eat the straw that was scattered about the barnyard; so he put up a fence around the straw-stack, and the calves at once knocked it down and began to eat the straw. (Laughter.)

MR. CUTLER read the report of the Resolution Committee as follows, and moved its adoption, seconded by Mr. Carson:—

RESOLUTIONS.

1. That the Executive make arrangements to hold the meetings of the O.L.A. in the downtown district, securing the use of an auditorium more suitable for the purpose.

2. That the Department of Education secure the services of Mr. L. J. Burpee or some other such authority on Canadian literature to prepare a bibliography on Canadian Literature for the use of libraries.

3. Resolved that it is desirable that free or public libraries be maintained in all cities, towns and incorporated villages, and also at sufficient other points to place a good library within reach of all our population. That towards this end the Department be asked to make an initial grant of at least \$50 towards reviving dormant or starting new libraries. That the officers of the Library Institutes be requested to use reasonable efforts towards this end, and that all necessary travelling expenses incurred by them towards this end be defrayed by the Department.

Resolved, further, that it is advisable in the near future to provide free library accommodation for all the people of this Province, and that the Department of Education be asked to work towards this end, and having in mind the

use of the present libraries as centres from which to carry on this work, that future regulations be formed with this end in view. This Association believes that the welfare of the Province demands the extension of this work, and pledges its support in every way possible within its power.

4. That the Inspector of Libraries be requested, in sending out to the various libraries their annual grant, to also send a statement showing the items making up the total, and also showing the deductions, if any.

5. That this Association believes that a necessary part of the Normal School training in this Province should be a course of lectures on the use of books, and their classification and cataloguing for library purposes.

6. That for the purpose of bringing the Library Institutes in closer touch with the O.L.A., the Secretary of each Institute be *ex officio* a delegate to this Association, and that this Association would respectfully suggest to the Education Department that the expenses of the said delegate from the Institute be paid out of funds provided for the expense of Institute meetings.

7. That the Department of Education be requested to establish a summer library school for the benefit of the librarians of the Province.

8. That the Ontario Library Association is of the opinion that the Department of Education should introduce into the Provincial Normal School a course of lectures on the use of books and the use of libraries; believing that such a course would enable teachers to encourage in their pupils a taste for good literature and the ability to use "books as tools," as well as to raise the standard of school libraries.

9. That the O.L.A. is of the opinion that the Inspector of Public Libraries' duties are of such a nature, and the number of libraries is increasing rapidly, that the staff in connection with this part of the Department's work is entirely inadequate. The O.L.A. would recommend the Department to strengthen materially the Inspector's department in such a way that the public libraries of the Province will receive the attention they require.

10. That the Department of Education be asked to print free for the O.L.A. a quarterly journal, to be devoted to matters pertaining to library work; and, if practicable, to have such journal bound with "The Quarterly Bulletin of Best Books."

11. That the thanks of the Ontario Library Association be tendered to Mr. Hodges, President, A.L.A., for his hearty invitation to attend the Annual Meeting of the A.L.A. at Mackinac, and that the Executive consider the question and, if possible, arrange to have a representation there.

12. That the Ontario Library Association desires to place upon record its sense of the great loss which the Public Libraries and the cause of education generally in Ontario has suffered through the death of T. W. H. Leavitt, Esq., late Inspector of Public Libraries. By his zeal and ability he was instrumental in bringing about a great revival in the interest in public libraries. His work, which was of a permanent nature, will long remain as his best monument.

MR. MURTON moved in amendment that we pass the resolution about the Inspector and send the others to the Executive to be dealt with at the next meeting.

SECRETARY HARDY seconded the amendment. Several resolutions involved financial expenditures, and he would not, as a member of the Executive, like to go to the Department and ask them to embark on something that would involve thousands of dollars, without having time to work out the plan; for example, a publication of a Canadian Bibliography which would cost probably at least \$5,000.

No time would be lost by deferring the matter, for the book was being worked upon now.

After some discussion, the resolutions as to aid to the Inspector, as to the late Mr. Leavitt, and as to Dr. Hodges were passed; the concensus of the meeting was declared in favor of summer library schools; and all other resolutions were referred to the Executive with power to act.

Meeting closed at 12.30.

DELEGATES PRESENT.

A. W. Cameron, B.A., Woodstock; Norman Gurd, B.C.L., Sarnia; Mrs. E. J. Jacobi, Oshawa; J. W. Hamilton, Sarnia; F. P. Gavin, B.A., Windsor; Miss B. Mabel Dunham, B.A., Berlin; Miss J. S. Reid, Chatham; Dr. C. R. Charteris, Chatham; Miss Carrie A. Rowe, Office Specialty Co., Toronto; Miss M. A. Rowe, Brockville Public Library; W. J. Hamilton, B.A., Fort William; J. F. Lillie, B.A., Oakville; Rev. H. Gracey, Gananoque; Adam Hunter, Hamilton; Rev. I. M. Moyer, Lynden; Rev. E. Cockburn, M.A., Knox College, Toronto; H. A. Yenney, Peterboro; Andrew Denholme, Blenheim; Rev. W. A. Bradley, B.A., Berlin; R. Alexander, Galt; W. Munro, Woodstock; E. A. Hardy, B.A., Toronto; Miss Mina Norrie, Guelph; N. D. C. Hodges, Cincinnati, U.S.A.; H. J. Clark, B.A., Belleville; H. Gray, 115 Macdonell Ave., Toronto; Norman Walker, M.D., Niagara Falls; Rev. Wm. D. Lee, Waterloo; Miss Amy E. McKowan, Shakespeare; Rev. F. W. Gilmour, B.A., Penetanguishene; A. R. Walker, Belleville; Geo. W. Rudland, Sault Ste. Marie; L. K. Murton, K.C., Oshawa; Thomas Dowler, Russell; James E. Kerr, Galt; D. Williams, Collingwood; A. H. Cuttle, Collingwood; D. M. Grant, B.A., Sarnia; W. Tytler, B.A., Guelph; W. J. Robertson, B.A., LL.B., St. Catharines; A. D. Hardy, Brantford; M. L. Nutting, Uxbridge; Miss Janet Carnochan, Niagara; Miss Nettie Fenwick, Preston; Miss Janet C. McKellar, Ingersoll; Miss Edith Sutton, Smith's Falls; James English, Peterboro; Miss M. Butters, Niagara Falls; Miss E. A. Schmidt, Library Bureau, Toronto; Walter R. Nursey, Toronto; Miss Louise Johnston, Stratford; C. H. Gould, M.A., McGill University, Montreal; W. H. Arison, Niagara Falls; Miss Spereman, Toronto; Geo. H. Locke, M.A., Toronto Public Library; A. E. Huestis, Toronto Public Library; J. D. Christie, B.A., Simcoe Public Library; W. O. Carson, London Public Library; Miss A. J. Gardiner, Sarnia; J. Davis Barnett, Stratford; Geo. Mitchell, M.D., Wallaceburg; F. A. Dales, M.D., Stouffville; Alex. Steele, B.A., Orangeville; Rev. W. P. Fletcher, B.A., Drayton; J. M. Scott, Preston; Miss Mary G. Lucy, Virginia; Miss Eleanor Holmes, Picton; Miss M. E. Ahern, Chicago; Miss Hester Young, B.A., University of Toronto; Miss Davis, Toronto Public Library; Prof. A. B. Macallum, M.A., F.R.S., University of Toronto; Prof. James Mavor, University of Toronto; W. F. Moore, Dundas; Miss Fairbairn, University of Toronto; Miss Bethune, University of Toronto; Cedric Chivers, Bath, England; E. S. Caswell, Public Library, Toronto.

